

Newsmagazine for Northern California's Gay Community and Its Friends

mid-september
ninety-four

the latest issue

volume six
issue five

SEX

IN THE 90s

Harvard study reveals more gays: Page 5 • Gay surfer dudes hang out: Page 7 • Wilson vetoes partner's bill: Page 9
Women's Weekend time: Page 13 • "Scenes From My Love Life": Page 23 • Exclusive interview with Fem2Fem: Page 24

THANK YOU

Bobbette from the Mercantile, Rod Glather and the Sacramento Rainbow Volleyball Invitational, Jammin' Jo's, Kinko's, Lambda Community Center, Markstein Beverage Co., Miller Brewing Company, Parcel Plus, Sacramento News and Review, the latest ISSUE, A Touch of Color, Affirmation Gay & Lesbian Mormons, AIDS Interfaith Network, AIDS Response Program, All Stars Dips, Alternative Creations, Ancient Dreams, Animal Watch, ASAP for Adolescents, Avalon Leather, Barbary Coast Cloggers, Be Proud!, Ben & Jerry's, Big Tomato-River City Volleyball Club, Black Leather, Bob Jr.'s Wood Thangs, Susan Braun, Caboose Press, California AIDS Walk, Capital City Swuares, Capital Political Action Committee, Chemical Dependency Center for Women, Dancing Rainbows, Dates & Mates Introductions, Desire, Direct Hit, EAGLES, Fairy Godfather Fund, Inc., Foot Traffic Dogs, FrontRunners Sacramento, G&L Dating Service, Getta Load of Those, GLAAD-SFBA, Golden State Gay Rodeo Association, Greater Sacramento Area Couples, Hawaiian Shaved Ice, HEAL, Human Rights Campaign Fund, Janet Johnson, LA Classic Screenprinting, Lambda Letters Project, Lesbian/Gay Business Alliance, Lindmen Home Products, Mary's Annex, Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, Northern California Community Research Group, Out Loud, Out There! Productions, Phillips School of Taekwondo, Donna Pierce, Pipe Dreams by Wolf, Police Department, Positive Gourmet Food Services, Prerogative Graphics, Pride Company, Princess Pets, Project Tocsin, Rainbow Snow, Rits's Jewelry, River City Democratic Club, River City Metropolitan Community Church, S&R Thai-Chinese BBQ, Sacramento AIDS Foundation, Sacramento Area Career Women's Network, Sacramento International Gay & Lesbian Film F., Sacramento Leather Association, Sacramento Women's Chorus, Spectrum Artwear, Sports Leisure Travel, Stonewall Alliance Center, Chico, The Christmas Fairy, The Lambda Players, Triangle Time, Triangular Rainbow Co., Twin Spirit Veterans Association, Valley Knights Motorcycle Club, Kathleen Wishnick.

**The Rainbow Festival Committee
Would like to thank everyone
for another successful weekend
of events. \$15,000 was raised
and split between LIFE Lobby,
H.E.A.L., Project Tocsin and
the Lambda Community Center.**

Terry Sidie of Faces would like to extend thanks to Richard Boriolo for his many years of hard work for the Rainbow Festival and would like to acknowledge the efforts of Sharon Marques and Carla Leek in organizing this year's event.

Coming Oct. 29

Robin's
**11 p.m.
in the tent**



Faces - 2000 K St.

Really I Must Say!

Freedom of Choice - Is Also Our Issue

by Michael R. Gorman

There was a time when I was uncomfortable with the number of lesbians involved in the abortion fight. I had difficulty understanding why this was "our" issue when there were so many other battles that related more directly to my civil rights. I also struggled (and still do) with the idea of abortion itself. I am a father who read, talked and sang to his son when he was still in the womb. But now I realize that my personal feelings about abortion are beside the point, and the real issues behind the abortion fight are far closer to my own skin than I ever imagined prior to looking at the larger context of the debate.

I was never naive enough to think that this is a new struggle. There has never been a time in human history when there have not been abortions. Let me reiterate that point. There have always been abortions. There are no "good old days" when it didn't happen.

If we can all
choose for
ourselves,
where does
that leave
the power of
their God to
rule us?

To abort means to call off, to abandon, as when a military mission is clearly not going to produce the desired results and the commander decides to cut the losses, abort the mission, and get out before more damage is done by tenaciously pursuing a losing proposition. These days we most often consider the word abortion in the context of an aborted pregnancy. Doctors don't abort fetuses, they abort pregnancies. (Check your Webster's.)

Despite the semantic muddiness of much of the discussion going on, some things are clear. For instance, abortions have always come in two distinct varieties. These two varieties are spontaneous abortions and chosen abortions. Spontaneous abortions are what we euphemistically call "miscarriages," as if the mother had carried the unborn in some awkward way that led to the end of

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Gay White Males Have it Tough

Editor,

One quite often encounters gay Caucasian males who try to link the struggle for gay and lesbian rights with that of other minorities claiming that the struggles are one and the same. However, the struggles faced by gay Caucasian males are quite different from those faced by racial minorities, women, and even other gays and lesbians of color.

The gay Caucasian male population has been decimated by the AIDS epidemic, and their group continues to remain in the majority of all those who are infected with the virus.

While people of color and females are somewhat protected from discrimination by affirmative action and equal opportunity laws, gay Caucasian males are increasingly finding themselves discriminated against through the abuse of these laws which have created a climate in California where reverse discrimination based on skin color and gender is not only tolerated but actively encouraged.

Besides not being covered by affirmative action and equal opportunity laws, most gay Caucasian males are certainly not protected from discrimination based on their sexual orientation.

Not only do gay Caucasian males find themselves under

attack from the conservative right wing consisting of religious fanatics and homophobic heterosexuals, but they are also increasingly finding themselves under attack from the left wing consisting of people of color, femin-Nazis, and mean lesbians who often seem to lump gay

Caucasian males with all other Caucasian males claiming that they are all domineering oppressors.

It has been said that those with the most challenges to overcome in this life would be those people of color who also

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THE LAMBDA CENTER

Serving the Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Community

Mondays

- ▼ Men's Coming Out Group 5:30PM
- ▼ H.E.A.L. Health Education and Awareness for Lesbians Support Group 7:00PM (beginning 9/12)
- ▼ HIV+ Support Group 1st & 3rd Monday, 7:00PM

Tuesdays

- ▼ Sexual Knowledge in the Nineties 7:00PM

Wednesdays

- ▼ Men's Focus Group 10/5 7:00PM
- ▼ Eagles (for seniors) 9/28 & 10/12 6:30PM
- ▼ Men of Color Support Group 9/28 & 10/12 6:30PM
- ▼ H.E.A.L. Advisory Board (call for information)

Thursdays

- ▼ Being Alive Living Room for PWAs 2:00-5:00PM
- ▼ Women's Coming Out Group 6:00PM
- ▼ CODA (co-dependents anonymous) 7:30PM

Fridays

- ▼ Youth Rap Group (24 & under) 5:45PM
- ▼ Café Lambda 8:00PM

Saturdays

- ▼ Youth Social (24 & under) 8:00PM
- ▼ Traffic School 10/8 8AM- 4:30PM
- ▼ Homebuyer's Seminar 9/24 10:00AM

Sundays

- ▼ Sac Area Bisexual Network 9/18 & 10/2 6:30PM
- ▼ Eagles Bike Club, call Roy at 442-0185 for info
- ▼ Gay Fathers 10/9 6:30PM
- ▼ Twin Spirits 9/25 3:00PM

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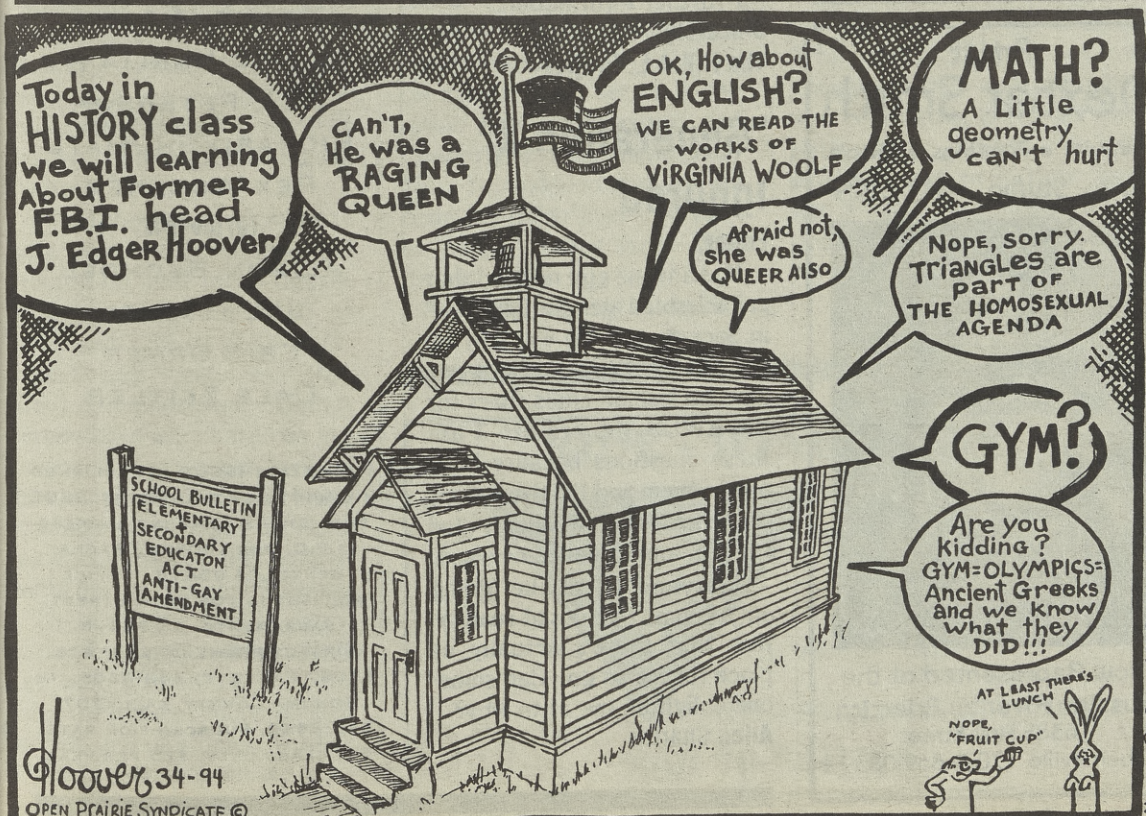
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LETTERS

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happen to be lesbian or gay, but in California during the nasty 90's it would seem to be that gay Caucasian males are the ones with the most challenges to overcome.

David Gray

Do Nothing for Doolittle

Editor,

One of the biggest enemies of our community is vulnerable to electoral defeat this November: arch-conservative congressman John Doolittle. Aside from having a truthful name (Doolittle has accomplished

nothing positive for the people of his district, our state or our country), he espouses the worst kind of homophobic rhetoric and aligns himself with Jesse Helms and former congressman Dannemeyer.

Running against Doolittle in Placer County is Katie Hirning, an ally and advocate of lesbian and gay rights. The Cool Political Report, a national political journal, listed their race as one of the top fifteen in the entire nation, and the press has labeled Doolittle as the top Republican target in California and as a "vulnerable" incumbent.

To show this man's hypocrisy and deceit, at the same moment he was publicly "challenging" Katie Hirning to refuse PAC

(political action committee money), he had already received over \$75,000 in PAC money in the past 15 years.

To pass health care reform next year, or ENDA (a proposed federal law to ban employment discrimination based on sexual orientation) and to defeat future Helms amendments, we will need every House and Senate vote. Please send the most generous contribution you can to Katie Hirning's campaign, P.O. Box 1201, Roseville CA 95678-8201; ph: 916-774-6144. Let's put Doolittle out to pasture where he can do no more harm.

Jessie Greenman

Cultural Events for Sacramento

Editor,

Colorscope is a culturally diverse gay, lesbian, and bisexual collective dedicated to developing multicultural events for the Sacramento area. On August 27, we hosted "Caribbean Sunset," a dinner and raffle event that succeeded in bringing people together in an atmosphere that was inclusive and fun.

We would like to take this time to thank the many local gay-owned/gay-friendly businesses that donated merchandise and services for our raffle. Your support is greatly appreciated, and nearly everyone came away with some kind of prize. We would also like to thank Joan for donating her wonderful backyard for the evening. Thanks also goes to Michael Gorman who covered

the event for *the latest ISSUE*. Most importantly, Colorscope would like to extend our appreciation to the people who attended "Caribbean Sunset," bought raffle tickets, ate, drank, and danced. It is our hope that the word will continue to spread about our group, and that we use the money raised to host future Colorscope events. Look for us in the calendar section, or call (916) 863-5879 or (916) 443-6922 if you have any questions. Thanks!

Sincerely,

The Colorscope Collective

H.E.A.L. Says

Thanks

Editor,

The H.E.A.L. Project (Health, Education, Awareness for Lesbians) would like to thank Jo Tierney of Jammin' Jo's Sports and Dance Bar for sponsoring our first orientation session in August. Jo has been a major supporter of lesbian and bisexual women's health issues in our community, as well as a major catalyst in our fundraising efforts. Her continued financial and moral support are most appreciated as we begin to launch our services.

We are also pleased to announce that there is a facilitated drop-in support group for women experiencing health challenges. The group will meet weekly on Mondays at 7 p.m. in the main room downstairs at the Lambda Community Center. Anyone interested in the H.E.A.L. Project is encouraged to contact the Lambda Community Center at (916) 442-0185 for further information.

Sincerely,

The H.E.A.L. Project

"Generation X" Ignored

Editor,

Has anyone else noticed that gay & lesbian "generation X'ers" in Sacramento are virtually ignored? Why aren't there any gay and lesbian clubs/bars for the KWOD 106 crowd? I ask these questions because I am one of them and I'm tired of my only choices being country (god forbid), top 40 dance or disco.

Everytime I feel like "going out," I come to the sad realization that there's actually no place for me to go. Can someone enlighten me as to why?

Allen Charles

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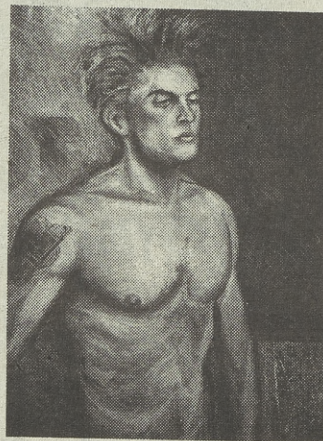
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Around the Nation

Keith Meinhold Wins Another Round in Court Ruling

News analysis by Rex Wockner

Gay sailor Keith Meinhold won another round in August in his fight to stay in the U.S. Navy.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said in a 3-0 ruling that the military can bar gays for saying they "desire" gay sex or "intend" to have gay sex, but it cannot bar gays simply for saying they are gay.

Yes, this sounds just like Catholic Church teaching: it's a sin to have gay sex but not a sin to be gay.

In order to get booted from the Navy, the court said, Meinhold, a 14-year veteran, would have to state a "concrete, expressed desire or intent to act on his homosexual propensity."

One might ask, of course, what else the statement "I'm

gay" could possibly mean except that one "desires" intimacy with a person of the same sex.

In 1992, Meinhold said on ABC-TV's *Nightline*, "Yes, I am, in fact, gay," and got kicked out of the Navy.

But a federal court later sent Meinhold back to work — he's now at San Diego's North Island Naval Air Station — and this appeals-court ruling upheld that decision.

Both rulings concern the military's old gay ban, not its bizarre new policy of don't ask, don't tell, don't have sex, don't kiss, don't hold hands, but do feel free to go ahead and read gay magazines, march in gay-



Keith Meinhold is back at work.

pride parades, go to gay bars, and associate with known homosexuals.

But the rulings likely have implications for the new policy because treatment of gays and lesbians has barely changed

since it took effect.

Following the new ruling, Meinhold said, "I am a sailor just like every other sailor in the United States Navy and I will continue to go about doing

my job as I always have, and the government cannot assume just because I'm gay, that I'm any different from any other sailor."

Sure, but don't most sailors
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New Study Disputes 10% Estimate

by C. Michalski

Recent joint studies on actual population numbers for gays and lesbians in the United States have placed the figures up to 20.8% for men and 17.8% for women.

These studies were presented by David Wypij (PhD, Harvard School of Statistics), James Wells (PhD and Vice president at the Center of Health Policy Studies) and Randall A. Sell (of the at the Harvard School of Public Health) on August 18 at the Joint Statistical meetings in Toronto, Canada.

Two different standard tests were used to determine sexual orientation, and these figures ranged from 6.2% to 20.8% of males and 3.3% to 17.8% of females at least "incidentally" classified as homosexual. Higher percentages were based on homosexual experiences and behavior since age 15, while lower numbers were based on same sex encounters of test participants during the past 5 years.

These are the first in-depth scientific reports which study gay and lesbian populations since the Kinsey reports on men in 1948 and on women in 1953. The Kinsey studies put the num-

ber of gay and lesbian populations at roughly 10%, where it has stayed for the last 4 decades.

Additionally, Randall Sell presented findings on the historical means which sexual orientation has been defined and categorized. The emphasis of Sell's findings is based on the review of 152 articles from public health arenas from 1990 through 1992.

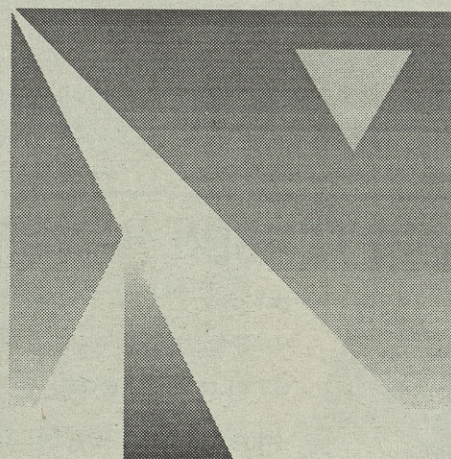
As a result of this study, Sell

proposed "new conceptual definitions and an operational measure of sexual orientation" through which more accurate and defined numbers of the gay and lesbian population could be measured.

A study by Murray Edelman, editorial director of Votert News Service, reported that of the confidential questionnaire answered by voters, 3% of these voters considered themselves to be bisexual, gay, or lesbian. While these exit polls are low compared to new and traditional studies figures, there are two interesting points to the Edelman exit poll study: Gay and lesbians responding to the poll were much younger than heterosexual voters and

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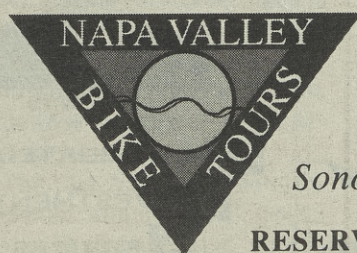
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COMMENTARY

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demonstrate with caskets and shout about doctors murdering babies. An unbiased observer of this fervor for unborn life would expect at least some of the same feelings to surround the ending of a life through spontaneous abortion. Yet this is not the case. When a woman has a "miscarriage" the assumption among the religious anti-abortionists is that God had his reasons, and God has the right to choose the fate of the unborn.

The reality is that the pro-

lififers do not really have a problem with abortion. They accept it as easily as any pro-choicer, perhaps more easily since they can dismiss the whole bloody affair by saying that the baby went to heaven and the rest is God's will. What disturbs pro-lifers is not abortion; it is choice. In their theocratic view, only God has the right to choose all of the time. Men, being God's surrogates on earth, have choice a great deal of the time. Women and children, however, should be content to have little or no choice. This includes reproductive choice. A woman who chooses violates the man's con-

trol and God's domain.

Christianity is a male centered, top-down management system of thought. God reveals; we obey. Father directs; children perform. Husband decides; wife concurs. Pastor preaches; congregation believes. (They are even named by this passive role: believers.) Debate, dissention and individualism, the building blocks of Democracy, are seen as dark threats to the harmony of the peaceful kingdom. Sheep don't debate the shepherd.

The pro-lifers do not blockade clinics for the sake of unborn children (their hypocritical response to spontaneous abortions clearly demonstrates that fact). No, what they are fighting for is the preservation of their world view.

How a person chooses to structure his relationships, whether with people or with God, is none of my business, or anyone else's. Equal partners or master/slave, it's all the same to me. Only when another person seeks to limit my freedom or dictate the forms of my relationships does it become my business.

The pro-life religious right is not pushing a moratorium on abortion and a limitation of choice as an individual lifestyle decision or a personal belief, but as a standard to be imposed upon all people. They have the absolute freedom in this country to reject abortion for them-

selves. That is not enough for them. They want unanimity within the nation. They want to create the Kingdom of God on earth, by force if necessary. Abortion is one manifestation of choice, and choice is what they fear. If we can all choose for ourselves, where does that leave the power of their God to rule us? (And by extension, their male leaders.)

Make no mistake, the pro-lifers are fighting for the pre-eminence of their theology, for the survival of their God as the God of all creation. It is not at all surprising that they have begun to resort to guns and murder. They are no different

the traditional male-female stereotypes, then the foundation of the male-on-top hierarchy crumbles. If women are allowed choice, then the Father-God does not rule supreme and the system collapses. Is it any wonder these people speak of holy war?

The battle for a woman's reproductive choice is simply one front in a larger struggle that includes the right of gay men, lesbians and bisexuals to live free and unmolested, the right of other religions to peacefully coexist, the right of educators to teach unfettered by superstition and folklore, the right of children to grow up unmo-

It is not at all surprising that they have begun to resort to guns and murder.


than the crusaders who killed the Moors or the slaughterers of the Native American. One theology, one religion, one God at all cost. Anything less is tantamount to giving in to Satan himself.

For the religious activists the fetus is a smoke screen, a pawn they exploit in their larger battle to subdue the powers of darkness. The abortionist is a euphemism for all of us who disagree with their version of the natural order. They marry us to Satan as easily as they swallow a communion wafer. And once you are married to evil itself there are no limits to the acceptable punishments for you.

It is no coincidence that the men who drive the pro-life movement are also haters of gays and lesbians. If gender identity and sexuality move beyond

lest, and the right of cultural minorities to cherish their varied traditions. If we ignore one battle, if we let the defenses give way, then the rest of our civil rights struggle will be attacked from behind. And stabbing you from behind is okay if you are a minion of Satan.

Perhaps we can teach the anti-abortion religious community the difference between their right to believe and their insidious attempts to dictate. Perhaps we will continue to be forced to fight in the public arena until we win. Either way, to let such ethnocentric, misogynist, subjugating theology go unchallenged would be the very death of the democratic experiment in human freedom. It has already been the death of many of our brothers and sisters.



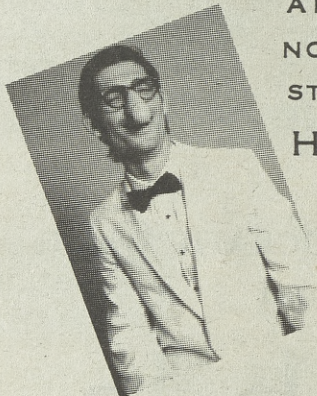
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Hillary Mullens reads from "The Cat Who Came Back"
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Carol Osmer-Newhouse "A Woman's Guide to Spiritual Renewal"

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Surfing With The Boys

by Michael R. Gorman

"Two or three years ago I was in Hermosa Beach, surfboard under my arm, just skating down the strand, and there's this one really handsome boy leaning against the wall, and he just cruised me massively."

I screeched to a halt on my skateboard and he was already turned the other way cruising someone else, and I went right up to him and I said, "I know when I'm being cruised."

"He got this big smile on his face and it turned out that he lived a couple of blocks from me. We became friends, you know surf buddies, and we'd scam dudes on the beach together. I mean, he's really short and boyish like me and we would, like, pick out these big, really big muscular guys and we'd twin cruise them together, especially the straight ones, you know, the volleyball dudes. Freak them out, like, 'I'm getting cruised by these junior high school kids,' you know? It was really fun."

David "Doogie" Freedman is a surfer. Asked to describe him-

self, he said, "I'm five-foot-four and I have no gag reflex." In many ways, including his irreverent sense of humor, Freedman fits the media stereotype of the blonde, blue-eyed surfer dude (a stereotype that Freedman claims is very accurate). In other ways he does not. He is gay. He is also Jewish. His family comes from Denmark. His father is an orthodox rabbi who lives in a condo on a surfer beach in Long Beach, Long Island, in New York. Freedman is educated and articulate, though his language is generously sprinkled with "dude" and "most excellent" and "like, you know" and other surfer slang.

The fact that Freedman is a gay man willing to talk about his surfing makes him an exception. Calls to surfing orga-

nizations all over the state yielded not one gay surfer. They did, however, prompt quite a few anti-gay remarks. One clerk at a Malibu surf shop said, "There aren't any. I guess they just don't like to surf. It's not an easy sport." A receptionist at one of the leading surfer magazines had heard that there were two lesbians on the women's professional surfing circuit, but she was certain that they would not want to talk. A call to the pro surfing organization that handles the women's events went unreturned.

Those in the surfing world willing to discuss gay surfers were universally of the opinion that surfing is very hostile to gays, and gay surfers tend to stay very deeply in the closet when around the other surfers. A surf shop owner in Huntington Beach said, "Surfing is the most homophobic, anti-woman sport there is. I don't know why."

David Freedman has his own theory about the homophobia

surfing is attractive in gay culture, there aren't a lot of gay surfers." With a smile he continued, "It musses your hair and makes you smell bad!"

Surfing, according to Freedman, is not a casual sport. Many surfers eat, drink and breathe surfing, which makes it difficult for a gay man to avoid the homophobia. "Surfers are very friendly and laid back as long as you are a part of the boy's club, a part of the drift. If you're a surfer and you're gay, unless you are six-five and all muscle, you have to be careful."

"And," added Freedman, "It makes your hair fall out. Many people don't realize that. My doctor said that its either that sea water clogs your hair follicles



of surfing. "Surfing is the most homoerotic sport in the world. It's dominated by young, very physically fit, usually very attractive boys and men. There are almost no women." Ironically the very qualities that make the sport sexy to gay men also make it anti-gay. "I think that the young straight boys who are surfers are aware that they are spending a lot of their time with other young boy surfers. There's a real touchiness about that. The average age of surfers is 18. It's really a young sport and a lot of surfer boys are very beautiful, very effeminate. How secure does that make them feel?"

Freedman added, "Although

or it's pollution in the water. Real serious surfers will lose a lot of head hair and body hair. Maybe that's why they're all so smooth."

The problem of pollution in the surf has led many surfers to be what they call "eco-warriors," and much environmental networking goes on in surfing circles. Many of the major surfing organizations contribute to environmental groups. One organization dedicated to preserving the beaches and coastal waters, Surf Riders, is made up almost entirely of surfers. In part because of the commitment of the surfers, the water quality of the Southern California beaches has been slowly

improving in recent years. Still "it's tough to find clean places to surf in Southern California. Santa Cruz is very clean, and it's good surfing. Santa Cruz is a major surfer dude town."

Despite the social and environmental problems, David Freedman loves surfing as he loves few things. "It's very addictive. The first time you catch that excellent wave, you don't want to stop."

And David has had more than his share of gay-positive surfing experiences, like the time as a teenager when he and a gay surf buddy who had just gotten his driver's license took the buddy's parents' Winnebago, picked up a couple gay surfer groupie friends and went on safari. It was a long weekend of surf, sand, campfires, most excellent waves and . . . well . . . free expression of adolescent energy in the Winnebago at night.

"For many young men, surfing provides their first sense of freedom. Parents know that there aren't a lot of drugs and drinking in surfing, and they'll let their kids go on safari. You can't do drugs and alcohol and surf. It just doesn't work."

Because alcohol is not a big part of surfing culture, the gay male fantasy of sex with a surfer who has had one drink too many is largely a myth. "Even those that are gay curious are very careful around other surfers. I remember once on a safari with a beautiful, blonde, blue-eyed neighbor who was straight, one of the guys pulled out a Playboy
continued on page 28



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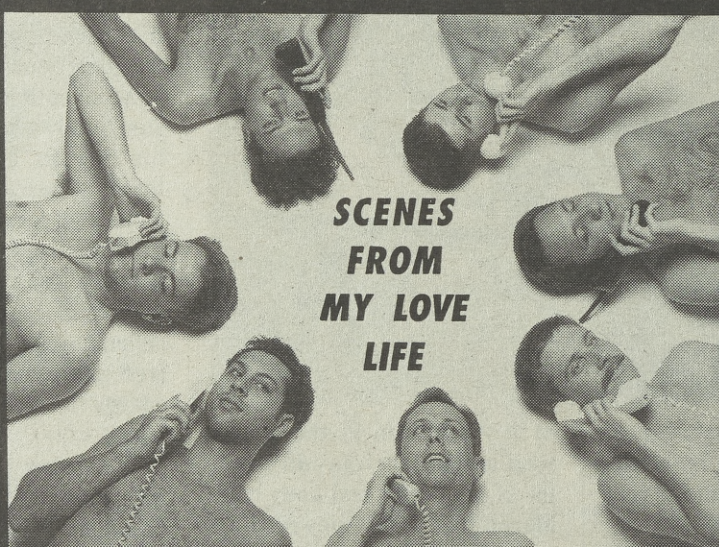
"PROVOCATIVE" - Drama-Logue

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Quote Unquote

by Rex Wockner

"CBS really wants me on TV. That's their aim. My aim is to have an all-gay sitcom someday, with heterosexuals as token guest stars. Let them be the next-door neighbors for a change."

— **Harvey Fierstein** talking to TV critics in L.A. last week about the gay character, Dennis Sinclair, he plays on CBS' new sitcom "Daddy's Girls."

"In the gay world, there's every kind of gay man. There are flamboyant men. There are gay Republicans, which is like retarded people. No one can represent all gay people. And as an actor, I have to play a specific character. I would rather see an openly gay person play an openly gay role, even in a stereotyped way, than see what I had to grow up with."

— **Fierstein**

"Yes, I've had a lot of hate mail but I don't bother with it. These poor people can't help it; they're just dumb. I don't want to say that. They're not enlightened. These poor, unenlightened people simply don't know any gay people."

— **Actress Carol Channing**, 71, talking to Atlanta's Etcetera magazine about her support for gays, which has included speaking at the Stonewall 25 rally and being grand marshal of the Los Angeles pride parade.

"At anything like that — the gay (Stonewall 25) rally and fighting AIDS — we're all helping each other backstage. That doesn't necessarily happen at any (other) time, except a gay rally or an AIDS benefit — because it's war-time."

— **Channing**

"It hasn't really changed anything in my life. But it certainly did confirm for a lot of people what they thought or hoped, and I think for a lot of other people, based on my mail, it made them sit back and go, 'Oh, I do know one.' So in that sense it served a good function."

— **Singer Janis Ian** discussing her public coming out 15 months ago with The Windy City Times.

"I look at my friendship with her as like having a gall stone. You deal with it, there is pain, and then you pass it. That's all I have to say about Schmadonna."

— **Actress Sandra Bernhard** discussing Madonna with US magazine.

"Martina! She's my personal hero!"

— **Rocker Melissa Etheridge** when asked by the Carolinas gay newspaper The Front Page who her personal heroes are.

"It's OK with me, because I figure I'm doing a service for myself and maybe for my friends by admitting, 'Yeah, I'm a lesbian.' It's something that is happening in our culture right now, and maybe by talking about it ultimately it won't be something that constantly has to be talked about in the future. It will be simply a matter of fact somewhere down the line. That would be nice."

— **Etheridge** discussing the publicity she's gotten for announcing her dykehood.

"There is simply nothing that can justify approval of (such a) hateful and discriminatory measure as Proposition 1. ... According to ... supporters, the measure is intended to prevent the creation of special rights and protections for gays and lesbians beyond those guaranteed to all citizens. Yet Idaho law doesn't contain any such special protections for homosexuals, nor is any being proposed. Simply put, this is a solution in search of a problem where none exists."

— **Editorial in the Idaho Statesman**, the state's main newspaper, opposing a voter-initiated constitutional amendment that, if passed, will deprive Idaho gays of some of the incomplete equal rights they now have.

Wilson Vetoes Domestic Partners Bill

by Michael R. Gorman

"I am returning Assembly Bill No. 2810 without my signature." So begins Governor Pete Wilson's veto message for the bill that would have established a means for unmarried domestic partners to register with the state of California in order to secure certain rights of conservatorship, inheritance and hospital visitation.

It was a modest bill compared to the rights afforded married couples in the state, but Wilson saw it as a threat to traditional [ie: straight] marriage: "We need to strengthen, not weaken, the institution of marriage."

Wilson wrote of what he sees as the government's role in rewarding heterosexual marriage: "But the government does have a role, indeed an obligation to adopt policies that encourage and reward marriage and the formation of strong families -- families that provide the fundamental and best hope of preventing increasing welfare dependency and increasing teenage crime and violence."

Even aside from its obvious reference to two of his campaign themes, Wilson's veto message still fell short of genuine in the view of many activists who worked for the bill. Laurie McBride, executive director of LIFE AIDS Lobby which sponsored the bill said, "The premise for his veto is absurd; he ignores the real plight faced by the people who would be most likely to register: opposite sex and same sex couples who are the least likely to have children [gay couples and senior citizens]."

LIFE AIDS Lobby Co-chair Audrey Covner, an attorney who helped draft the bill, said, "The bill offered important benefits to unmarried couples, especially where one partner is seriously ill or injured. So naturally, senior citizens organizations and AIDS advocates and gay/lesbian groups stood together in support of the bill. Governor Wilson's veto is a cold-hearted slap at all of our relationships."

A prepared statement by LIFE Lobby calls the veto "an

action that bespeaks a cold, cold heart or the cowardice of political pandering."

Both are true according to Wilson's opponent in the upcoming elections. Speaking in Los Angeles, Democratic gubernatorial candidate Kathleen Brown lambasted the governor with, "This is just more political pandering to the religious right

from an election-year governor."

Brown added, "The governor's veto is cold and insensitive. This bill was carefully crafted to meet legitimate needs of people whose life situation does not incorporate marriage. We can and should support the institution of marriage and families without harming the legitimate needs of domestic partners."

She called Wilson's veto message "a poor excuse for vetoing the bill."

According to the Sacramento Bee, Richard Katz (D. Panorama

City) who brought the bill before the legislature said of the veto, "It's pathetic but not surprising that the governor would ignore the needs of 1 million Californians, many of them low and middle-income seniors, to mollify the religious right. It's the difference between a leader and an also-ran, and it's sad that he didn't have the guts to stand up for what's right."

The primary opposition to the bill came from various fundamentalist Christian organizations, including the Traditional Values Coalition. Such groups



Gov. Pete Wilson.

have come to dominate many aspects of the Republican party, and the governor has had a rocky relationship with them. Gay rights and senior citizens groups both supported the legislation strongly. This is the second major veto that has angered the gay community. Wilson vetoed a state gay rights bill, AB101, earlier in his term.

"This is just more political pandering to the religious right from an election-year governor."

- Kathleen Brown

River City Rainbow Festival Entertains Thousands

by Stan Carlsen

While local television stations focused on cops 'reaching out' to the gay community, the Rainbow Festival drew 15,000 patrons over the Labor Day Weekend that were there to party.

The street fair on Sunday was only part of the festivities that started with entertainment Wednesday night and ended with a "burnout barbecue" and tea dance on Monday.

Throughout the event, Faces tent (erected especially for the

fair) was a steamy, jumping madhouse of revelry, music and performances.

According to the doorman, known to everyone as just 'Jeff,' the tent capacity was supposed to be 160 persons. But, with the adjoining bar crowd of 600 to

700 people, "I get upwards of a thousand people in here a night," he said.

The only major disappointment of the weekend's entertainment, was a no-show by singer Robin S. on Saturday night. The show, however, did go on, with Jeanie Tracy (who records on Sylvester's Fantasy Records label out of Berkeley), wailing out her hit single "One Night Only," for an appropriately wild audience. (Robin S had a personal emergency and will return to perform Oct. 29)

Sunday's headliner, comic Lois Bromfeld, was obviously trying out new material for a very appreciative crowd. Most of her jokes were one-liners about people in the audience. The highlight of her show was her ever popular "Sorority Girls from Hell."

Opinions among patrons on the street varied regarding the size and character of the '94 Rainbow Festival.

"It's a smaller crowd than last year, but everyone is being so nice to each other," said Caroline Armstrong, who occupied the same seat at Faces for several days in a row, watching the stage shows on closed circuit television.

"It's the best one yet," said bar-hopper Rick Carter. "Before it seemed smaller. This time the food is good, the band in the tent is bitchin', and the men, oh my God!" he exclaimed.

This was the ninth annual Rainbow Festival, according to chief sponsor Terry Sidie of Faces. Foremost in his mind was the cost of security (approx. \$28 an hour for police working overtime).

"Last year, we raised \$17,000 for charity. The year before, it was \$28,000," said Sidie, "but it seems that the funds raised drops as the cost of security rises." This year's festival raised \$15,000 split between LIFE Lobby, the Lambda Community Center, Positive Gourmet and Health Education Awareness for Lesbians (HEAL).

According to event organizer Sharon Marques the Festival has grown so much in the nine years that they are planning to establish a year-round non-profit organization that continually raises funds for the community.

Regardless of the glitches and cost over-runs of this year's Labor Day weekend bash, one thing was readily apparent. A great time was had by all.



Rainbow Festival organizers and volunteers gather at 20th and K Streets for photos and to celebrate another great event.

Openly Gay Candidate Acting Secretary of State Tony Miller Deserves Support

by C. Michalski

The upcoming election for Secretary of State's office is drawing national attention due to issues candidate and Acting Secretary Tony Miller feels are right for the state.

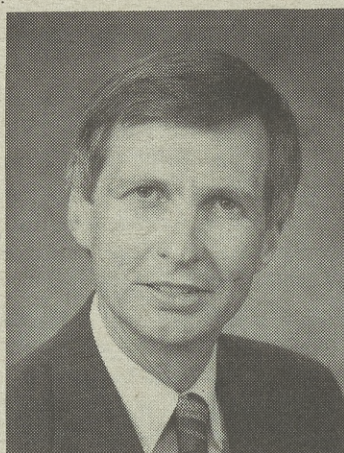
The issues at stake are the federal "Motor Voter" registration act, through which conceivably over 1,000,000 new voters could be registered. The act has already been temporarily halted by Governor Pete Wilson.

However, Tony Miller, Acting Secretary of State, and the Democratic nominee for the office, has threatened to sue Wilson if he does not implement the new act quickly and effectively. Miller has long been an advocate for making voter registration process more accessible for Californians. Miller's support in registration-by-mail and vote-by-mail efforts were

both successful in getting more people registered in California. In Stanislaus County in 1993, Miller was the responsible for pioneering the first state election completely conducted by the mail.

Miller became Acting Secretary of State when March Fong Eu was appointed ambassador to Micronesia in 1993. Prior to this time, Miller was Chief Deputy Secretary of State from 1981 to 1994, Chief Legal Counsel to the Secretary of State from 1976 to 1994, and an original member of the Fair Political Practices Commission in 1975.

In 1993, as a member of the



Tony Miller.

Citizens' Commission on Ballot Initiatives, Miller was instrumental in assisting with his recommendations to improving the initiative process. In addition, Miller has openly supported the passage of the truth-in-advertising law to make mandatory the names of organizations and industries which pay for media ads pro or con to ballot initiatives.

Tony Miller is also the first gay candidate to run for a statewide constitutional office. A field poll from July showed that

while Miller was ahead of his opponent, Assemblyman. Bill Jones (R-Fresno), 26% to 24%, 50% of the voters were still undecided.

Additionally, the Republican Right Wing has launched a campaign of bigotry against Miller, rather than look at the issues facing the Secretary of State office.

Tony Miller has worked hard to represent the people of California by implementing and maintaining high standards at

continued on page 16

Colorscope Embraces Minority Gays

by Michael R. Gorman

Something was missing. Jenny and her college friends were never the kind to sit around watching too much television and complaining about the latest hard-nosed professor at the university.

They spent their free time volunteering at the Lambda Community center, facilitating support groups, helping with fundraisers. They attended every major gay, lesbian and bisexual event that their time allowed.

At one major event, several of them stood watching the crowd pass by. They were proud to be

continued on page 16



Marsha Stevens

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Mr. Northern California Drummer Moves To River City

by Michael R. Gorman

He's handsome. Powerfully built. Bearded. He has a penchant for black leather and spiked wristbands. He might be frightening were it not for the mischievous twinkle that often takes over his eyes and the humor that swoops in unexpectedly like a stealth bomber.

Then there is the way he smiles proudly and chuckles when he tells stories about his eleven-year-old son. He is Leo Lawhorn, a Sacramento man who is gaining international attention this month as a contestant in the International Mr. Drummer Contest.

The contest is sponsored by Desmond Inc. and its *Drummer Magazine*, a monthly magazine dedicated to all things masculine and a fixture in the gay and lesbian leather scene.

Lawhorn is a relative newcomer to Sacramento though he loves the town. "This opportunity came my way because of Sacramento." He was born and raised in San Francisco. Asked how he came to Sacramento, he replied, "I drove here."

Before his move here, Lawhorn had a peripheral interest in the leather community for a few years. He was attracted to the focus on masculinity which became one factor in a three year search for his own identity following the death of his lover Dennis from AIDS. "Leather was always something that intrigued me because of the masculinity it represented, and the strength and power." And he found the people in the

leather scene nonjudgmental, accepting and supportive, qualities he values in friends.

His first organized involvement in the leather community was as a member of the Sacramento Leather Association. He joined in order to meet people in his new home town and to further explore his own interest in leather. His enthusiasm and energy put him quickly on the board of the organization where he serves as a co-chair. Not one to coast, he already is proposing changes in the organization that will help the group have more fun and build closer social ties while not diminishing the serious work of charity fund-raising for groups like WEAVE and HEAL and the Sacramento AIDS Foundation. He hopes to heal some of the rifts that have plagued the group for a while now.

Asked about his involvement in the Mr. Drummer contest, Lawhorn answered with candor and in a way that does not fit the stereotype of a macho leather man. "I was a fat kid growing up. Kids were cruel, and I learned to see myself as a fat kid. I was telling my mom



Mr. Northern California Drummer, Leo Lawhorn.

about winning the Northern California Mr. Drummer title, and we talked about that kid. I told her I was able to put him to rest finally. I look in the mirror now and I don't see short and fat. Nobody did that for me but me. We can all change ourselves if we have the motivation. It feels good."

Much of Lawhorn's focus is outward as well. "Since Dennis died, and in this three years of growth since, it has become very important for me to make a difference."

For Leo Lawhorn, part of making a difference is celebrating and supporting each individual's right to pursue his

or her own path. Asked about the discomfort many politically active gays and lesbians feel with the image projected by the leather community, he told *the latest ISSUE*:

"That's censorship. If we're so worried about our image, then we can always go back into the closet! First and foremost we are human beings. We're ALL different; we're all individual. I can't speak for anyone else, but I like leather. And I'm proud of being gay. I've worked hard to get to the point where I'm comfortable with myself. I like myself. I don't feel that I have to

stand on a rooftop and shout to everyone that I'm gay, but I have every right to do what pleases me as long as it's not hurting anybody else. And if some right-wing bigot comes along and points at me --- well to be honest, I don't give a damn what they think. Their opinion doesn't matter to me." (And

they'd get just as upset seeing two men in Armani suits kissing?) "Exactly! These people who worry so much about being part of the mainstream -- well, we are already a part of the mainstream, but we're our own stream too."

Lawhorn does not believe that differences have to lead to divisions. "The thing I don't like is having to splinter off. You get some vocal minority saying, 'We don't like that!' and the majority of people are afraid to say anything. We are all individuals. And our community is lucky because of that. We have a rich heritage. We have the leather. We have the Stonewall drag queens. We have people from different ethnic backgrounds. We are comprised of so many groups. I love our heritage. Why hide it?"

Despite his status as Mr. Northern California Drummer, Lawhorn maintains a modesty and a sense of humor about it all. "When I won the Northern California title in San Jose, one of the judges came up to me and said he wished he'd had a camera to photograph the look on my face. I was standing next to this six-foot blonde, Norwegian adonis, and I was turning to congratulate him when they

continued on page 28

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Sacramento Newsbits

RCDC Awards Event Planned

The River City Democratic Club (RCDC) Annual Lambda Awards Event is scarcely a month away, and RCDC is on

the cutting edge of change in awards events again this year.

The Firehouse Restaurant will be the site of the affair, whose theme is "What One Person Can Do." In keeping with the winds of change, this year's event will set a "champagne and truffles" tone, with sumptuous and creative finger foods and desserts to gorge upon. This will be your chance to rub el-

bows with politicos and mingle at the single most stylish event of the year.

And let's not forget the awards themselves. The RCDC Lambda Awards, including the Stan Hadden Leadership Award, are the oldest and simply the most prestigious awards given by the Sacramento gay and lesbian community. Previous winners include Neil Flynn, Denny Mangers, Theresa Corrigan and the Lavender Angels. Five equally deserving recipients will be honored this time as well.

The price this year is a more-affordable \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. Tickets can be purchased from Compustations, 1819 J Street, or call (916) 658-9999 to hold your tickets at the door price. Local political luminaries will shine, as usual, but look for a swift-moving evening, just 7 p.m. until 9 p.m.

Women's Network (SACWN) will present author, poet and "herstorian," Judy Grahn on Friday, September 16, 6:30 p.m. at the Red Lion Hotel, 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento.

The poetry of Judy Grahn was the anthem for the grassroots feminist movement in the early 70's. In 1992, Publisher's Weekly named her first collection "one of the twenty most important books of the last two decades." Grahn's work is widely anthologized. She writes and speaks on many subjects including women's, lesbian and gay culture, psychology and mythology, women's spirituality, violence against women, and mental health. She is well known for her workshops on racism, multicultural studies and goddess literature.

Grahn is the author of the groundbreaking Gay and Lesbian cultural history, "Another Mother Tongue", "Gay Words, Gay Worlds." This book defines ceremonial cultural roles of Gay men and Lesbians, both

in traditional and modern societies.

Tickets for the event are priced at \$10 for SACWN members and \$15 for non-members, and \$15 at the door and may be purchased by calling (916) 451-8034. This event is open to women over 21 years of age only.

Davis Celebrates Gay Pride

Pride Week '94. On National Coming Out Day, October 11, Michelangelo Signorile, author of *Queer in America*, will give the keynote presentation at the UC Davis Pride Celebration October 11. The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence will be back with a performance of a same sex marriage ceremony which will be followed by a wedding reception. The pride dance is on again and we are planning a fund raiser for a lesbian and gay, bisexual student scholarship. For more info call (916) 757-3848.

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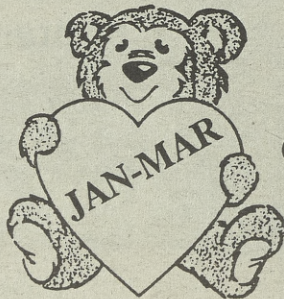
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Russian River

Women's Weekend Ushers in Autumn

by Kate Moore

Women, women and more women are expected to celebrate the end of summer at the Russian River for Women's Weekend II September 23-25.



Hundreds of women surrounded the pool at the Triple R in May. (top) Winner of the Wet T-Shirt contest takes a bow.

As the crowds pour into Guerneville, the town will be transformed into a veritable lesbian paradise. Events begin on Friday night at La Lita's Mexican Cantina with a "Welcome Women" party hosted by La Lita with entertainment by Christy G and the Spots.

Fife's Resort is hosting country western dancing and Ziggurat will be hopping both Friday and Saturday nights with

top 40 and high energy dance music.

One of the traditional Women's Weekend favorites -- the Wet T-Shirt Contest -- will again be held at the Russian River Resort. Also at the Triple R will be the Fake Orgasm Contest. Both events will be held around the pool on Saturday. (To really enjoy the Fake Orgasm Contest, make sure you are near a speaker. . . you can't help but laugh.)

A crafts fair will be held in downtown

Guerneville at Sweet's River Grill featuring crafts by local artisans. Also the fair will feature a farmer's market specializing in fresh produce from the surrounding farms of Sonoma County.

The Rainbow Golf Tournament is an open tournament to benefit Camp Lavender Hill -- a camp for children of gay and lesbian parents -- and will be held at Northwood Golf Course in Monte Rio. The tournament is played as a four-person scramble and cost to enter is \$60. Call John Moore golf-pro at Northwood (707) 865-1116 for registration information and

more details.

Other businesses in the Russian River area that are participating in the Women's Weekend celebration include The Annex Restaurant who are hosting a Sunday brunch and pool party with live entertainment by Christy G and the Spots, and the Brew Moon coffee shop who also plan to have live entertainment all weekend.

As the crowds pour into Guerneville, the town will be transformed into a veritable lesbian paradise.

Vendors interested in participating in the Crafts Fair are encouraged to call (707) 869-3383 for booth applications.

The end of summer is just the beginning of good times to come. Women's Weekend II is a great way to kick off autumn.

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Molly Brown's Reopens With a New Attitude

Molly Brown's Saloon, a landmark at the Russian River closed its doors in August only to be reopened again, but this time with a sassy new attitude.

Owners of the Highland Dell Inn, Glenn Dixon and Anthony Patchette along with Patty Hoagland and another "silent" partner chose to take over Molly Brown's for business and personal reasons. "This was my hangout in the past and I just couldn't see letting it die," said Patchette, "but I had no idea it needed this much work."

The new attitude of Molly Brown's is due in part to a the healthier lifestyles of the 1990s. What was once a menu of deep fried everything gives way to fresh salads, vegetarian entrees and lighter meals. "We cut back the original menu and added a few new things," said Dixon, "this way we can give faster service and better food."

Other things changing at

"This was my hangout in the past and I just couldn't see letting it die."

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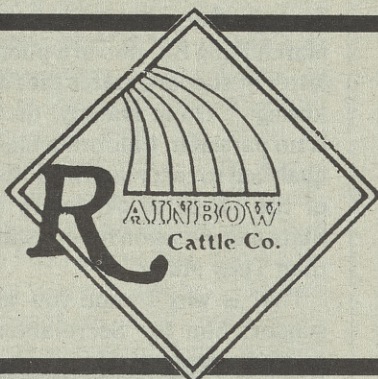
Molly's include a new dance floor for country dancing. Dixon and Hoagland are country western dance instructors in their spare time and plan to have lessons and hopefully a full dance floor.

The dance floor is an expense that the new owners can't swing right away, so they came up with the idea of a "Memorial Dance Floor." For four-dollars a square locals can claim a square of their own. One-dollar goes to benefit Food For Thought, the communities food provider for people with HIV/AIDS. Names of those donating will be placed on a plaque in the bar.



The outside of Molly Brown's hasn't changed, but the new owners have big plans.

According to Dixon, "Molly Brown's is a river tradition, truly a place where locals come and feel comfortable... kind of like a home away from home."



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COLORSCOPE

continued from page 10

a part of such a growing and courageous community, yet something was missing. Looking at their own faces in various shades of brown, their own eyes, dark and surrounded by black lashes, some almond in shape, they realized that they were the exceptions in the crowd. They were Asian, Hispanic, African-American. And they were under-represented. Where they felt they should have been part of a vibrant pattern of interwoven colors, it was easier to feel like a small brown patch on an otherwise white t-shirt.

Jenny Kung, Pam Akins, Josie Miranda, Gerardo Medina: not a group to sit around and complain or blame, they decided to do something to try to draw in the gay, lesbian and bisexual people of color they knew were out there by founding a group called "Colorscope" which is dedicated to bridging the gap

between the diverse cultures within the gay community. The groups primary focus is planning multicultural events as a social meeting ground for people.

"I had friends who represented the rainbow," said Kung. "We wanted to go to events that looked like us."

In August, Colorscope held a Caribbean-themed party and raffle at the home of Joan Fountain, a local African American lesbian activist, writer and speaker who has been featured on most of the major talk shows with her work on eating disorders and self-esteem. Her effervescent hospitality reflected her excitement about the group's goals.

The music that drifted over the wooden deck out back carried rhythms and melodies from around the world, upbeat and avant-garde. The food included curried potatoes, fried sweet potatoes with mango salsa, Jamaican jerk chicken and stuffed zucchini.

The faces at the event were as diverse as the other elements: the slim, graceful Black man who later led the revelers in retro-seventies disco line dances, the Mexican-American businesswoman whose straight boss was more than willing to donate to a group trying to create cultural harmony, the cute, blonde pixie of a lesbian who outdanced everyone, the Latina and her Black lover who spoke of the difficulty of the the one's military career, the Hispanic male poet, the shy, middle-aged white woman expressing her understated pleasure at finding a group so comfortably accepting as this.

The raffle, which earned money to support the group's future efforts brought in such sponsors as The Bread Store, Rick's Dessert Diner, Choices, Little Shop At The Top (Folsom), Landmark Theaters, The Crest Theater, Postcards Etc., Java City, and Food for Thought.

Colourscope will continue to

provide social events where cultural networking is the norm, but it also has plans to expand its reach into political causes, AIDS awareness, charity fundraising and cultural arts events. On September 8 it co-sponsored (along with La Raza/Galeria Posada) a reading with poet, playwright and essayist Cherrie Moraga and poet Ricardo Bracho. They see that event as the first of many.

Expressing the feelings of the group's founders, Jenny Kung told *The Latest Issue*, "There are different ways to affect change. Some people work from inside the system, like LIFE Lobby. Some people, like ACT-UP force change from the outside. But there is a third way. We can do it another way. We work for change with community building. One of the reasons we wanted *the latest IS-SUE* to be here was its editorial on supporting the Lambda Center and building up the community to make it strong."

MEINHOLD

continued from page 5

have sex?

Gay legal experts were quick to warn that this latest ruling does not mean gay folks in the military should feel secure saying, "I'm gay" or "I'm gay but I do not desire or intend to have sex."

The military's confusing policy on gays is not applied in even a remotely consistent manner, and this court ruling is just one of many to come. Ultimately, the U.S. Supreme Court is expected to sort the whole mess out. Until then, be careful.

HARVARD

continued from page 5

tenatively represent at least 5% of voters within the 18 to 29 voting age group.

The study results will be used to study the social, civil rights, and health programs in the United States.

MILLER

continued from page 10

the Secretary of State office. His endorsements include former Secretary of State March Fong Eu, who in a public letter of support, states the following: "...Quite frankly, there is no person in California more qualified to carry out the duties of the office of Secretary of State and my vision for our state than Tony Miller.

That is why I hope you will support him for Secretary of

State in 1994. His education, experience, his integrity make him an outstanding choice. He has my endorsement and my financial support. I urge you to give him yours".

If you are interested in helping Tony Miller's campaign, consider doing the following: Call the campaign office at (916) 447-5101, (213) 857-1994 or (415) 788-1994 and ask for a schedule of upcoming fundraisers or participate in a statewide grassroots effort by hosting a house party for Tony Miller.

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The AIDS File

Finally Some Good News On The AIDS Front

by Bruce Mirken

Another year, another AIDS Conference, another set of gloomy headlines proclaiming, "no major breakthroughs." So what else is new?

What's new is that this year there was a significant breakthrough that much of the media—including much of the gay press—either glossed over or missed entirely. While most news outlets were vainly waiting for word of the anti-HIV equivalent of penicillin, researchers working with Serono Laboratories were quietly announcing what looks like the first truly effective treatment for wasting syndrome.

Wasting is the condition perhaps most associated with the horror of AIDS—that gaunt, walking-death look too reminiscent of Auschwitz. And wasting kills. Studies have firmly established a clear link between weight loss and death: If you lose more than about 30% of your ideal body weight, you're history.

And wasting has proven extremely hard to treat. While it's possible to control some infections that contribute to weight loss—MAC, for example—much wasting seems to stem from metabolic dysregulation and absorption problems that have been nearly impossible to deal with. The most common therapies for wasting—nutritional supplementation, the pres-

cription appetite stimulants Megace and Marinol as well as various forms of intravenous or tube feeding—sometimes help, but frequently don't. Often the weight gain that does occur is merely fat, which does little good, rather than the lean body mass that is urgently needed.

That's what makes Serono's product, recombinant human growth hormone, so exciting. In a placebo-controlled study using 178 volunteers, the group taking growth hormone showed substantial weight gains that were sustained over time (some remained on the drug as long as two years); and those taking growth hormone not only gained weight, they actually had an increase in lean body mass that was greater than their total weight gain. On average, they replaced about three pounds of fat with lean tissue. And safety does not seem to have been a problem.

While individual stories should not be taken as conclusive proof of anything, I would be negligent not to mention that two good friends of mine were participants in the growth hormone study and are still on the drug. Both were becoming dangerously thin, but once on growth hormone they began gaining weight almost immediately and quickly began to look and feel better than they had in many, many months. Neither reports any significant side effects and one of them—a rather jaded longtime treatment activist—was so astonished by his own improvement that he practically begged me to get the word out about this.

Serono's product is not pres-

ently approved for sale in the United States. Similar growth hormone products (basically the same substance but made by a different process) produced by

ment IND" (not as broad as the expanded access programs used previously for drugs like ddI and D4T, but which should make growth hormone avail-

absolutely essential:

Nothing you read in this or any newspaper column should be taken as advice on what medicines to take or not take. No drug is right for everybody, and only your health care provider—hopefully somebody who knows your situation thoroughly and is well-versed in HIV/AIDS care—can make an intelligent recommendation. Growth hormone can have side effects, and experience with its use in AIDS is still limited. If it sounds worth exploring, talk to your doctor.

That said, I'm going to go out on a very, very long limb and predict that this may turn out to be the most significant life-extending development in AIDS care since the advent of PCP prophylaxis in the late eighties.

God, I've been waiting a long time to be able to say that.

Once on growth hormone they began gaining weight almost immediately...

Genentech and Eli Lilly are presently approved for treating children who are deficient in growth hormone, but it is unproven at this point whether they would have the same effect on PWAs suffering from wasting.

The Serono growth hormone may be available shortly. The company has already applied to the FDA for approval for treating growth hormone-deficient children; once that occurs a physician can legally prescribe it "off label" for other uses, though insurers may not be willing to pay. Serono has also told activists from ACT UP/Golden Gate and Project Inform that it plans to move quickly to have the drug approved as a treatment for wasting.

In the meantime, the activists have been pressing the company to use one of the FDA-sanctioned mechanisms for making the product available to those who need it while awaiting formal approval. The company has told them that it will have such a program, a "Treat-

able to those in urgent need), up and running by early September. No public announcement has been made as of this writing, but may have occurred by the time you read this. And don't be surprised if ACT UP decides to raise hell should Serono fail to follow through.

But even though the news on growth hormone looks good so far, a few words of caution are

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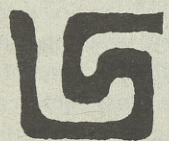
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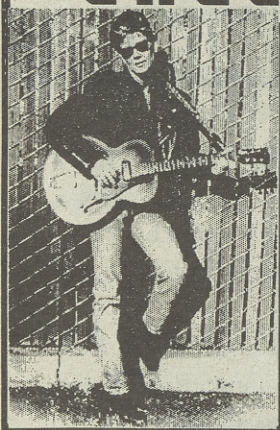
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SEX

IN THE 90S

by P.J. Dunker

It was done in the heat of the moment. It was raw. It was steamy. It was hot. Yet, if it was unsafe sex it could be a crime of passion that carries a life sentence.

The crime lies not in the act, but in the often blatant disregard of safer sex practices despite having the knowledge that unsafe sex is very much like playing Russian roulette with the AIDS virus.

Figures released at the 10th International Conference on AIDS last month stated an estimated 17 million people worldwide carry the HIV virus. The World Health Organization predicts that at its current rate of

choices of sexual behaviour. But at least one researcher has pointed out that the number of possible sex scenarios in real-life situations hardly resemble the handful of categories offered as guidelines. Some of these gaps in the "risk" assessments are significant as noted recently by the Lesbian Avengers in a protest at the Center for Disease Control office in the Bay Area. A twenty foot banner reading, "Dykes demand the CDC study woman-to-woman AIDS transmission," summed up their grievance.

There have been virtually no studies done by the CDC or any

spread that number will have increased to 30 to 40 million by the end of this decade. While studies worldwide concur in few things, something researchers agree on is that safer sex practices greatly reduce the likelihood of HIV transmission as well as the transmission of a plethora of other STDs. This being the case, why are some people ignoring safer sex practices, and how could something so potentially life saving have become so controversial?

Every sexually active human should be concerned. The question often seems to lie in how concerned they need to be. Crisis centers, doctors, clinics, and research labs group different kinds of sexual activities into ranked levels of "risk" assignment as a guideline for people in assessing their own

other group to document lesbian risks. This may partially stem from the CDC's definition of a lesbian as "a woman who hasn't slept with a man since 1978." At least one CDC surveillance dataset shows over 50% of women get their infection through the "other/risk not reported or identified" category. In another recent study of risk group attitudes by the University of Minnesota Hospital and Clinics a fatalistic view was discovered among teenaged (13 - 21 years old) men.

Lead researcher Gary Remafedi explained, they believe they will get AIDS, regardless, because they are gay, it is therefore useless to struggle against it. More than

60% of these young men participate in risky behavior despite scoring a high AIDS awareness.

In contrast, older (50 - 80 years old) gay and bisexual men tend to engage in lower-risk sexual activity according to a study conducted by Golden Gate University Professor Leonard Kooperman. Kooperman believes the attitudes of this group of people to be of special significance because of the large percentage (67%) of the HIV infected population they represent for their age bracket. This group's belief that educational programs are an effective tool in preventing the spread of AIDS is in sharp contrast with that of Focus on the Family (Colorado Springs) who blame sex education programs for adolescent AIDS transmissions.

Research has begun shifting more emphasis into the heterosexual population as infection rates increase in this group. Dr. Isabelle de Vincenzi of the European Study Group on Heterosexual Transmission of HIV, which includes 10 medical centers in eight countries, reached several alarming and enlightening conclusions from a study soon to be published. Among these findings was evidence that heterosexuals often do not use condoms even when one partner is known to be HIV+. The group also discovered a possible link between the degree of infection (termed clinical status), or in other words how infected a person was, with their rate of infectiousness or how likely they were to infect an unprotected partner.

Although reasons cited for not using condoms included spoiling the mood, forgetting, general nuisance, and discomfort, the most frequent



Front Page Feature

IS IT SAFE?

reason given for not using a condom among all people in all groups is the belief that they and their partner are not at risk. Technically, however, a "no-risk" group would consist of only those individuals who have no possibility of exchanging bodily fluids in any fashion; sexually, blood borne (intravenous/transfusion), maternal, or other means.

Often overlooked in safer sex promotions is the necessity for explicit instructions in practicing the suggested techniques. Knowing what materials to use when and where and with what is a critical part of safer sex. Studies consistently indicate that the more often a person practices safer sex techniques the more proficient they be-

come at avoiding accidents, such as condom breakage, another reason offered for lack of condom use. However, numerous studies have been done testing condom reliability.

The eight highest rated condoms were shown not to leak the HIV virus, while the bottom 50% were all shown to leak the HIV virus. Evidence that the public may not be aware of these findings is the data that indicates that the most popular brand of condom among college students are the "Trojan" condoms, all of which are in the bottom 50% and have been shown to leak HIV. The top eight brands in descending order are Mentor, Ramses Non-Lube, Ramses Sensitol, Gold Circle Coin, Gold Circle, Sheik

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Elite, Durex Nuform, and Pleaser. The FDA is disputing the test results stating too few batches were sampled to categorically rate any brand. The agency is concerned that some people may stop using condoms altogether as a result of the study. The FDA is responsible for assuring the safety and effectiveness of condoms as medical devices. Both groups agree that only latex condoms are safe.

Furthermore, there is agreement that correct use of

condoms is vital and requires 1) using a new condom with each sexual act, 2) handling the condom carefully to avoid damage from fingernails, teeth, or other sharp objects, 3) ensuring no air is trapped in the tip of the condom, 4) adequate lubrication (a water-based lubricant containing nonoxynol-9 is highly recommended), 5) using only water-based lubricants and avoiding contact with all oil-based materials which can break down the molecular structure

of latex and render the condom useless, 6) applying and removing the condom while the penis is erect, as well as holding the condom to prevent slippage during withdrawal. Other considerations include examining the condom for any sign of deterioration (brittleness, stickiness, discoloration) prior to use.

There have been occasional reports of holes in latex condoms, however these reports were most likely in reference to latex gloves not condoms. Manufacturing processes are considered responsible. Gloves are dipped in latex only once when they are made whereas condoms are dipped at least twice. Gloves are also allowed a leakage rate 10 times that of condoms. There were no statistics available concerning leakage rates and manufacturing standards for latex dental dams. Dental dams should be stretched over the body part of your partner that you wish to lick. A drop of lube on their side of the dam enhances sensation for both parties. There are "dam harnesses" available as well.

A major complaint among latex cunnilingus participants is the lack of appropriate taste sensation. Another source of aggravation may come from a lack of variety in so far as size, shape, color, and talc-free, hypo-allergenic selections. Oven strength or microwavable saran wrap is often suggested as an alternative for dental dams, but no technical studies could be located that specifically tested saran wrap's effectiveness as an HIV and other STD transmission-prevention

continued on page 28

SAFER SEX GUIDELINES

KISSING

On the lips and/or deep kissing inside the mouth is considered safer sex. **HOWEVER BE AWARE** that HIV may be transmitted through open blisters, cold sores, oral herpes, and cuts and scratches including those that may occur from brushing or flossing your teeth.

ORAL

Sex includes licking, sucking, eating out, rimming, and/or going down on any part of your partner's ass, vagina, cock, or a lactating breast. A latex or plastic wrap barrier should **ALWAYS** be used.

PENETRATION

Whether it be with penis, fingers, hands, fists and/or toys it should **ALWAYS** be done only with a latex barrier. A slippery, well lubed glove or condom is highly recommended for safer penetration. **BE SURE** to use only water based lubes, oil based lubes can break down latex condoms and cause breakage. A new barrier should be used with each new partner and between alternating anal and vaginal sex. Try layering barriers to make smooth transitions by simply peeling away the last barrier before switching, leaving a new clean barrier for the next penetration.

TOYS

Should be cleaned in between use with 1 part bleach to 10 parts soapy water. When using vibrators use unlubed condoms, especially for a vibrator with an AC cord. Change condoms between each partner.

S/M ACTIVITIES

Cutting rituals, play and permanent piercings, shavings, whipping, tattooing, and branding etc. Whenever there is the possibility of contacting blood or blood fluids disposable latex gloves should be worn. Disposable blades and needles are preferred for cuttings and piercings. Metal instruments can be sterilized in a solution of equal parts bleach to water by fully immersing for at least 10 minutes and then rinsing thoroughly. If at all possible disposable blades and needles should be disposed of in a Sharps® container. Rigorous flogging and/or whipping may cause welts and other wounds that contact blood fluids. Use a new, clean flogger, cat, whip, cane, crop, etc. with each new partner or disinfect the leather between use. Blisters and burns can also be easily infected and care should be used in hot wax, branding and other extreme heat or extreme cold fetish rituals that may cause burning and/or blistering. Paraffin wax burns at a lower temperature and is generally safer. Beeswax is extremely hot wax. Leather accessories may be disinfected using 1 part bleach to 10 parts soapy water using saddle soap and Kneats Foot Oil®.

WATER SPORTS

Golden showers can be enjoyed on external unbroken skin with a low risk of HIV infection. Urine should always be kept away from eyes and open cuts or sores. Enemas and douches in sex play should use disposable nozzles and lubricants, your own bag, and latex gloves. Dispose all expelled liquids and disinfect after any spill. Spiking enemas or douches is dangerous, particularly in the rectum.

the latest events

Budweiser

SACRAMENTO

SEPTEMBER 15

Being Gay Today - Sacramento's local Gay/Lesbian/Bi TV Program, Sacramento Cable, Channel 17. Thursday 10 p.m.; repeated Friday 4 p.m. & Saturday 10 a.m. Singer/guitarist Laura Bowly; Stefan Gruenweld from the Sacramento Area Bi-sexual Network and music by the Sacramento Women's Chorus.

SEPTEMBER 16

Judy Grahn - Poet, Author, Herstorian. Red Lion Hotel, 2001 Point West Way. 6:30 p.m. networking; 7:30 p.m. Program. \$10 subscribers; \$15 non-subscribers and at door. Call (916) 451-8034. A SACWN event.

SEPTEMBER 19

2nd Annual Neighborhood Night at the Mirage, 15th & F Streets, Sacramento. Free Pool. Keno & Lottery, and arts. 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 20

Lesbian Support Group - in Auburn at 6:30 p.m. at the De Witt Center, 11512 "B" Avenue in the "Pool Room". Call (916) 632-7080. Also meet on Oct 4th & 18th.

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays - will meet at 7:30 p.m., at St. Marks United Methodist Church, 2391 St. Marks Way. Dr. Will Green, MD, will facilitate a RAP session. Call (916) 722-0327.



The play, "Scenes From My Love Life" runs Oct. 7 - 9. See review on page 23.

SEPTEMBER 21

HIV Positive Emotional Support Group - meets in the Buehler Building at 2800 L Street across from Sutter General Hospital. 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Meets Oct 5th & Oct 19th. Call (916) 446-3734.

The Story of Norma Jean Croy - Come see this video at Lioness Books. This film debuted at the San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. It concerns a Shasta Indian who has been in prison for over 16 years for a crime she didn't commit. 7:00 p.m. at 2224 J Street. (916) 442-4657.

Lesbian and Gay Business Alliance meets at 7 p.m. at Carrows Restaurant, J & 28th St., Sacramento. Michael Boyd & Lee Sauer will speak on "Using Computers in Your Business". There is no charge to guests at their first meeting. For more info call (916) 863-9733.

SEPTEMBER 22

Being Gay Today - Channel 17 A whole hour of Dyke TV from New York City. Thursday 10 p.m.; repeated Friday 4 p.m. & Saturday 10 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 23

Sacramento International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival - The festival at the Crest Theatre includes two nights of film shorts plus Greg Araki's latest feature: "Totally F***ed Up." Tickets are \$7. Each showing requires separate admission. Tickets for reception and film are \$20. Proceeds will benefit CARES, HEAL and the AIDS Housing Alliance.

June & Jean Millington - with band Lynn Vidal, Nancy Vogl and Janelle Burdell are



June and Jean Millington perform at the Palms on September 23.

SEPTEMBER 29

Being Gay Today - Channel 17, Momentum covers the Senate hearings on the Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 1994. Following momentum will be a half-hour of Outlook from the Bay Area.

OCTOBER 1

Women Take Back The Night - March, rally, and survivors speak out protesting violence against women. Begins at 1:00 p.m. West Steps of the State Capitol. Retail and food vendors, self defense work-shop, Sacramento Women's Chorus, Joan Hawkins, Melody & The Matriarchs, Sacramento Taiko Dan and much more. March begins at 7:30 p.m. Call (916) 443-3470.

Delta BBQ - Sacramento AIDS Foundation and FACES are sponsoring a barbecue at FACES, 2000 K Street, Sacramento. Starts at 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. \$6 for full BBQ Chicken Dinner. Proceeds to benefit AIDS Society of Sacramento.

OCTOBER 7

Scenes From My Love Life - a new play about sex clubs, phone sex, and theatre critics by Ronnie Larsen. Three days only! October 7 - 9 at 8 p.m. and 2 p.m. on Sunday at the 24th Street Theater, 2791 24th St., Sacramento. (916) 974-8159.

OCTOBER 9

RCDC's Lambda Awards at the Firehouse, 1112 Second St. Old Sacramento. Cocktail reception 7 - 9 p.m. \$25 per person, \$30 at the door. Tickets available at CompuStations, 1819 J Street or by calling (916) 731-5648.

OCTOBER 11

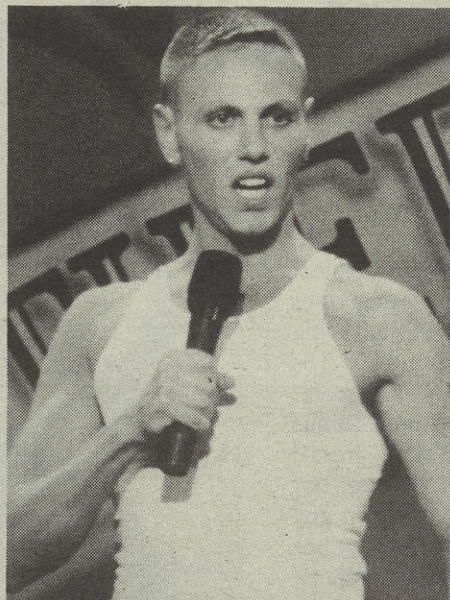
National Coming Out Day -- Take your next step in the coming out process!

"Out There II" on Comedy Central features host Amanda Bearse with gay and lesbian comics. See article on page 22.

AIDS Interfaith Network - meets at 6 p.m. Potluck dinner followed by general meeting. St. Francis Church, 1112-26th St., Sacramento. All PWA's and persons interested in networking around AIDS are welcome. Call (916) 393-5367.

OCTOBER 16

River City Metropolitan Community Church Open House. 11 a.m. service with Martha Stevens followed by community awards



Comedian Mark Davis is featured in "Out There II" on Comedy Central Oct. 11.

and bar-b-que. Call (916) 856-1444 for more info.

Dykes on Mykes - celebrating the creative diversity of Sacramento's own talented musicians. 5 p.m. at the 24th Street Theater. Tickets \$8 in advance, \$10 at door. Call (916) 452-3005.

OCTOBER 28-31

Haunted House at Lambda Community Center hosted by the Valley Knights Motorcycle Club. Call (916) 442-0185 for more details.

OCTOBER 29

Robin S performs at Faces, 2000 K Street A benefit for the year-long Rainbow Festival fundraising drive.

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SEPTEMBER 17

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SEPTEMBER 18

Tavern Guild Picnic at Fifes Resort. Call (800) 7-FIFES-1 for more details.

SEPTEMBER 20

Torch Song Trilogy - by the River Repertory Theater. Performances are at the Jenner Playhouse on Hwy. 1 in Jenner. Call (707) 865-2905.

SEPTEMBER 23-25

Women's Weekend II - starts Friday night at Lalita's Cantina, Fife's Country Western dancing and dancing at Ziggurat. Saturday, Wet t-shirt contest at The Triple "R", plus lots more. For more info call (707) 869-GLBA.

SEPTEMBER 24

Women's Weekend Brunch and Pool Party at the Annex. Live music by Christi G and the Spots. (707) 869-1800.

Wet T-Shirt and Fake Orgasm Contest at the Russian River Resort. Call 1-800-41RESORT for more details.

SEPTEMBER 30

Women Making Music Retreat - Join Judy Fjell, Crystal Reeves, special staff musicians for a weekend of making music together. Bring your acoustic instruments, for 3 days and nights. Beginners are welcome. Call (707) 944-2420.

OCTOBER 29

Halloween Party at Fifes Resort. Call (800) 7-FIFES-1 for more details.

SAN FRANCISCO & BAY AREA

SEPTEMBER 15

Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint - Features Dos Falloia in "Twin Sisters of Different Cul-de-Sacs". 8 p.m. \$12. Plays through 9/18. For more info call (415) 861-7933.

SEPTEMBER 16

Boy's Life - Three Stories of Love, Lust and Liberation plays at the Castro Theater through the 22nd. (415) 621-6120.

The Lavender Lounge - is the official video of the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade and Celebration. The video will be re-broadcast every Tuesday at 10 p.m. on channel 47 through September 30th. (415) 337-4921.

Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint - Doug Holsclaw in "Tattoo Love". 10 p.m. Final Performance. \$12. For more info call (415) 861-7933.

SEPTEMBER 17

KAIROS - "Preparing for the Later Stages of Care" is being presented from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. by KAIROS Support for Caregivers. \$35 donation. Call (415) 861-0877.

A Celebration of Greatness - A benefit for the Marin AIDS Project and the Larkin Street Youth Center. An unprecedented compilation of musicians, authors, and speakers will take the stage of Dominican College's Angelico hall, 50 Acacia Avenue, San Rafael. Call (415) 749-7677. Tickets are \$20.

Best of Broadway - 1994 musical revue benefits Hope House AIDS Hospice. Performance at Hiram Johnson Theatre, 65th & 14th Avenue. Tickets are available through mail only. Call (916) 447-8024.

SEPTEMBER 19-25

Mr. Drummer Week 1994 - a seven-day celebration of leather and fetish lifestyles, to be held in San Francisco. Main events are Leather Fetish Expo, Whiplash Dungeon Dance Party, 14th Annual International Mr. Drummer Contest. For more info call (415) 252-1195.

SEPTEMBER 21

Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint - features Hank Donat in "Popcorn in the Morning". A new one-man comedy/drama is Norman Rockwell's worst nightmare. 8 p.m. \$12. Plays through October 2nd. For more info call (415) 861-7933.

SEPTEMBER 25

Folsom Street Fair -- (415) 648-3247.

SEPTEMBER 26

UCSF AIDS Health Project - presents "Ten Years of Facing the Future Together: A Variety Show Benefit for AIDS Relief. 8 p.m. Call (415) 476-6430.

OCTOBER 1

Gay and Lesbian Run '94 - sponsored by the San Francisco FrontRunners, will start at 9 a.m. sharp at the south end of the Polo Field in Golden Gate Park. It coincides with the Castro Street Fair. As in past years, 94's run will be a 5K/10K race and a 5K walk. For Registration Forms, please call (415) 978-2429.

OCTOBER 2

Castro Street Fair -- (415) 467-3354.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

SEPTEMBER 16 - 18

Chico Freedom Fest Weekend "Stonewall 25" - The festivities will begin on Friday, at 7 p.m. with an opening party at the Stonewall Alliance Center. Saturday's events include a community BBQ & dance. Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. enjoy a day of music, food, comedy, crafts, & beer garden at Bidwell Park in Chico. Call (916) 893-3336.

SEPTEMBER 18

Three Snaps Up Presents the 3rd Annual PLUNGE - at Raging Waters, Lake Cunningham Regional Park, San Jose. Call 800-473-8658.

Gay Day at Knott's Berry Farm - From 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Tickets are \$25. For more info call Odyssey Adventures (818) 893-2777.

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Entertainment

"Out There II" To Air On National Coming Out Day

by Chris Narloch

At the start of "Out There II" Whoopi Goldberg tells us there's really no difference between a gay comic and a straight comic. I beg to differ after seeing Comedy Central's second all-gay and lesbian laughfest. Judging from the six individuals here, gay comics are probably funnier.

Amanda Bearse (of Fox's "Married With Children") plays mistress of ceremonies and comes out dressed in a stylish black and white outfit. She gets the comedic ball rolling commenting on her clothes and saying, "I've had to dress in drag for eight years on 'Married With Children'." Of the infamous lesbian kiss between Roseanne and Mariel Hemingway, Bearse says "not bad for two straight

girls!"

First up on the show is Kate Clinton, the best of the lot, with a terrific set about coming out to your parents and what to do if they find your dildo. Her best material centers on how to "dedyke" the apartment when the folks visit: "We call it straightening up...homophobia does begin at home." Smooth and relaxed, Clinton offers at least one pearl of wisdom

("never come out to your father in a moving vehicle.")

Next up is Scott Silverman, whose boyish appearance conceals a serpent's tongue. Dealing primarily with the subject of homophobia, he describes being gay and Jewish as a "big hatred double coupon." His parents are committed members of PFLAG ("mom thinks the parade is for her.") Silverman spares no one, not even the sensitive straight guy who told him, "I'm not gay, but I've had a homosexual experience." ("Really! What did you do? Buy a belt and a pair of shoes that match?")

The third batter on the bill is Elvira Kurt, and although she doesn't hit a home run, she at least covers a couple bases well. Describing her niche, she claims to fall into a new category somewhere between butch and fem ("I'm a fella-girly!") And her Hungarian parents give her only grief, borrowing her car and removing the rainbow flag and the pink triangle because dad doesn't want people to think he is "that way" ("right, every gay man's dream, a 60 year-old bald guy in a Toyota.")

Mark Davis is a welcome returnee from "Out There II" who claims to have been raised "on a communal ranch of lesbians who took me in as a young man and raised me as their own." Davis does a mean Katharine Hepburn taking off jewelry as a gay person (you have to see it) and regrets the fact that he can't wear leather ("I look like Leather Bo Peep!")

Frank Maya is the weak link of the evening with a routine that includes several "Anne



Amanda Bearse of "Married With Children" hosts "Out There II."

Frank" jokes whose sin is not so much their tastelessness as the fact that they're not funny. Mom pops Prozac like they were tic-tacs, and even the straight people in San Francisco pretend to be gay - Maya needs better material.

Last up is John McGivern who gets considerable mileage out of being Irish, Catholic and gay. ("I'm a walking 12-step program.") He was a disappoint-

ment to his father, who wanted him to go out for basketball ("I lettered in cheerleading.") McGivern also admits to an unhealthy childhood attraction to Malibu Ken.

A wonderfully successful sequel to the first installment, "Out There II" is a great way to kill an hour. The pleasure the comics feel at performing gay material for a gay crowd is contagious, and Cybill Shepherd sums it up with a brief "infomercial" for the gay rights movement ("come out, come out wherever you are.") The show debuts October 11 - National Coming Out Day.

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Scenes From My Love Life Hot Gay Play Comes to Town

by Chris Narloch

"I have a 10-inch cock and a swimmer's build" - that's how several young men on cellular phones describe themselves to potential lovers at the start of Ronnie Larsen's wickedly funny new play "Scenes From My Love Life".

Never mind that none of them really fit the description because exaggeration is one of the many charms to be found in this terrific new comedy about the games that gay men play.

A definite play for the 90's, "Scenes" chronicles the trials and tribulations of nine gay men in San Francisco who try everything from phone sex and personal ads to sex clubs and gay bars in an endless quest to connect with members of the same sex. As the play opens, our lead characters, Isaac (J. Bixby Elliot) and Chris (Christian Canterbury) are breaking up. They and the rest of the colorful ensemble proceed to go looking for love in all the wrong faces (and places) for close to two hysterical hours.

Bixby Elliot plays Isaac with a wholesomeness that nicely offsets the character's obsession with sex lines. A \$600 phone bill becomes the point of contention between Isaac and Chris, his lover, an opera queen who is mystified by the idea of fast, impersonal sex. As played by Canterbury, in the production's most affecting performance, Chris's romantic innocence and clumsy attempts to "let down his hair" sexually provide some of the play's best moments. In

one scene, his inexperience leads all the other callers to hang up on his phonic five-way, and the bewildered look on Canterbury's face is classic.

The other characters, each of them a distinct type, have more battle scars than Chris, and they include: Bill (Eric Womack), the macho leatherman - including leather underwear - who just can't seem to get the Bay Area Reporter to print his very explicit personal ad correctly; Mike (Drue Mackintosh), the shallow preppie forced to check his purple sweater at the door to "Blow Buddies", a sex club where cologne is not allowed; Richard (Patrick J. O'Connor), a sarcastic slut who nearly has a breakdown upon learning his friends are out of diet Coke; and Gene (Neal Shorstein), a pharmacist



Scenes From My Love Life --sex clubs, phone sex and theater critics.

who periodically dons drag and belts out showstoppers, like Liza Minelli's "Maybe This Time", to comment on the action.

Mitch Ellis (Steve), Michael Cronin (John), and Frank Willey (Allen) handle the remaining smaller roles with skill, and the entire cast interacts with great

precision. (The hilarious scene where they all face the audience and "mousse" simultaneously as they dress for sex is alone worth the price of admission.)

After almost two hours of raw jokes and some simulated sex (all of it very witty), writer/director Larsen gets to the soul

of the play with an unexpectedly moving finale. (I was having such a good time I didn't care if the "message" never arrived.) In the bittersweet conclusion we get a flashback of Isaac and Chris (now split) and their chance first meeting at the opera, while our drag queen hostess sings "He Was Too Good To Me" in the background. The playwright seems to be saying that the pair didn't realize how good they had it. In other words, love games and phone sex have their place, but when it comes down to a relationship there should only be two hearts on the line.

"Scenes From My Love Life" has been playing to soldout crowds at Theatre Rhinoceros in The City, and its success there has prompted a touring production with the original cast. Their first stop is Sacramento and The 24th Street Theater for three performances, October 7 & 8 at 8 p.m. and October 9 at 2 p.m.



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An Exclusive Interview With Fem 2 Fem

by Joyce Bezazian

Fem2Fem -- the band behind the recent "lesbian chic" craze performed at the Rainbow Festival and granted an interview to *the latest ISSUE* before the show.

I met with the two remaining original members of the group, Christina Minna and "L.D." Speaking with Christina was a particular surprise, as she presents herself as a very serious and thoughtful young "out" lesbian, in contrast to the trendy, "sex-kitten" image of the band. Slightly built, with eyeglasses and casual attire, it's easy to picture her studying for final exams at the local college library.

L.D., in contrast, with a cigarette in one hand and drink in another, emits a more earthy appeal. Her laugh is loud, her voice raspy, and her responses more impulsive than planned. She feels she has grown a lot from her experiences in Fem 2 Fem.

As a straight woman, exposure to the lesbian community has really helped to melt away her fears and ignorance. "I've learned so much being around gay people...I've learned to be a

completely compassionate human being, where I wasn't before...I'm still growing. I was one of those people who would spit at gay people...It's been quite an education."

"A lot of women come on to her, all the time," states Christina, "and it's good for her."

"I've learned to deal with it." Apparently, so, since L.D. has been known to bare her breasts while performing (see the "Stonewall" *ISSUE*). "Being in this band has actually made me more comfortable with my own sexuality. I don't think I really was before...with all of my sexuality."

Both women state that the group recently experienced yet another big "shake-up" when they were joined three weeks ago by their newest member, British performer CeeJay. Christina cites "ego and financial disputes" as the source of the group's instability. "Money seems so irrelevant, because you

want to do the music more than anything, but when it comes down to everyone making money off of you, and you're not making a dime..." Christina explains.

The band has valid concerns about exploitation. Perhaps another factor in this equation is that the women of Fem 2 Fem are not autonomous. Although their creators, managers, writers, and producers are very talented and have scored a great deal of successes with other acts, the women themselves have almost no creative control. They cannot choose their own material, nor do they play their own instruments on the records.

"We are owned, managed, and produced," states L.D. "We're basically hired guns."

"We are not Fem 2 Fem," adds Christina, "We're an idea and an image put together...But we are Fem 2 Fem, in actuality. They keep telling us we're not,

but we are the essence, the creative spirit of the group."

Once they get out on stage, the band feels that what they do is their own. They sound as if they are fighting to obtain more control over their direction. Further, the irony that

these "lesbian songs" are written by men is not lost on the Fems themselves.

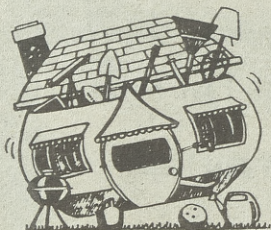
"Our managers got us together," says Christina, when asked how Fem 2 Fem came into being. "One of our managers has gay friends, and they took him out to some bars. He realized that there was a lack of music for women by women. The main emphasis of our album wasn't to be 'lesbian music,' that was what people clung to, but we only have a few songs that are about 'women to women.'" L.D. adds, "We're not telling people who to be...We're telling people to be who they

continued on page 28



Fem 2 Fem's popularity is due to their ability to market themselves as "lesbians."

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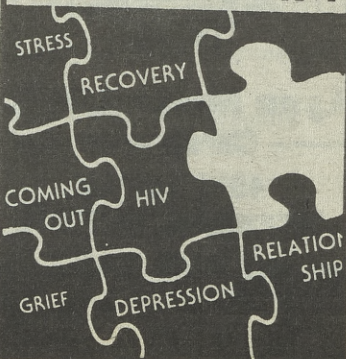
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Videos To Kick Off Film Fest

by Stan Carlsen

The third annual Sacramento International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival brings two new innovations to the 1994 program to be presented on September 21, 23 and 24.

The first new addition is a full program of video shorts to be screened at Sacramento State on Wednesday Sept. 21 (the Crest Theater downtown is not equipped to screen videos.) According to Festival Chair, David Dimit, the videotape format is the wave of the future.

"Because of cost effectiveness of video over film, and the large number of people you can reach, future festivals will undoubtedly see more video presentations," said Dimit.

Because the Festival is sponsored by student groups on campus, (Delta Lambda Phi Fraternity and GLAS), free parking has been made available to festival patrons. Just follow the signs and head for the Redwood Room in the Student Union.

The second innovation of this year's event is the showing of a single feature film after the regular Saturday program at the Crest. According to Dimit, if

this proves popular, the Festival might be expanded by way of showing a feature film several times a year.

"This would give Sacramentans a chance to see films that for the most part skip our community completely," he said.

The feature film for this year's Festival is "Totally F***ed Up", by Greg Araki, who directed "The Living End". The movie recently finished a run to rave reviews at the Castro Theater in San Francisco.

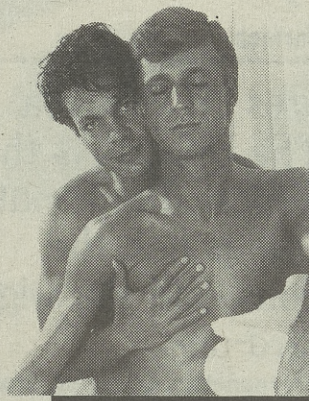
Tickets for this year's programs are a dollar higher than last year (\$7 general, \$5 for students), but a pass for the entire set of films and videos is only \$20. A good deal can also be had by just attending the video show, which costs \$5 for everyone. An additional \$20 will get you a pass to Friday night's opening reception and program. The reception will

welcome one or more of the directors of films being screened, and also will allow patrons the first choice of seating in the theater.

The latest *ISSUE* will be sponsoring Saturday night's program of short films, including last-minute additions "We're Talking Vulva" and "Chicks in White Satin". The first is a campy feminine hygiene film and the other an Academy Award nominee for Best Documentary-Short Subject (it concerns the wedding plans of two women whose mothers either try to screw up or help out with the arrangements.)

The beneficiaries of the 1994 Festival are CARES, the AIDS Housing Alliance, and H.E.A.L. Pick up a program and tickets at Lioness Books, 2224 J Street or at the Lambda Community Center, 1931 L Street, Sacramento.

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Movies

"Priscilla," The Queen Of The Silver Screen

by Chris Narloch

"The Adventures Of Priscilla, Queen Of The Desert" is the craziest, funniest film about drag in ages. The music is hot, the costumes are outrageous, and the wigs look like they have hard-ons.

Priscilla is the name of the school bus chartered by three catty "queens" -- Mitzi, Felicia and Bernadette -- who must travel halfway across Australia to get to a big resort gig. This risqué road movie with a gay twist (the huge bus gets painted pink) boasts several standout performances.

The leader of the pack, and the real queen of the desert, is

Bernadette, an aging transsexual, recently widowed, who plays chaperone to the two younger "girls". As portrayed by Terence Stamp, with tremendous dignity and humor, Bernadette is probably the best depiction of a transsexual I've ever seen on the screen. There's a lifetime of feeling in every one of her expressions.

The movie is really about

friendship, and the three leads play off each other beautifully. Hunky Guy Pearce plays Felicia, an Abba fanatic with a sadistic streak who is often at odds with Mitzi (Hugo Weaving), who turns out to have a couple significant and emotional secrets in his past.

It's not long before the fur, and sequins, fly after Priscilla stalls and our "heroines" become trapped in the Outback. The bus keeps breaking down, but the movie never does thanks to a clever script and headlong direction by an Aussie named Stephan Elliott. He uses the natural wonders of his country to breathtaking effect in the outdoor locations.

But the real natural wonders are Stamp, Pearce and Weaving who vamp their way through the wildest drag sequences I can recall, complete with futuristic costumes and hair-dos of every conceivable style and color. They lip-synch, masterfully, to a varied and perfect soundtrack that includes chestnuts by Peaches and Herb and Gloria Gaynor. (The rendition of "I Will Survive", done in the desert with our trio dressed in striped bell-bottoms, has to be seen to be believed.)



Felicia/Adam makes a striking figure atop Priscilla while cruising across the Australian outback in "Priscilla, Queen of the Desert."

Thankfully, the movie isn't all fun and games or it would be disposable. The three naturally run into homophobia and some gay-bashers, and there's a reconciliation involving Mitzi that's quite touching. Best of all Bernadette, the queen of the survivors, finds a way off the road at long last. If there's any justice, Terence Stamp, a 56 year-old straight actor, should find himself in the audience at the Academy Awards next year nominated for Best Actor.

Sacramento International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival

Just a note to buy your tickets early and get your butts out to The Third Annual Sacramento International Gay And Lesbian Film Festival at the

Crest, September 21 - 24. Several courageous folks waded through countless hours of bad movies to bring the cream of queer cinema to River City.

Thursday night's program features several excellent documentaries including "Our Time Has Come" by Vic Ferrer and Brian Petraska. This absorbing music video, locally produced and funded in part by Capitol Political Action Committee (CAPPAC), and featuring scenes from the March on Washington, is a wonderful celebration of gay pride and history.

Friday night plays host to some great comic shorts like "Intrepidissima", from Spain, about a clever tomboy who gets revenge on her pesky mother. And Saturday will have the men visiting the snackbar for refreshments after the very hot "The Attendant" wherein a museum employee finds himself in over his head when sexy slaves in one of the paintings come to life.

There's something for almost every cultural and sexual persuasion. I helped pick some of the films this year, so you know they're good.

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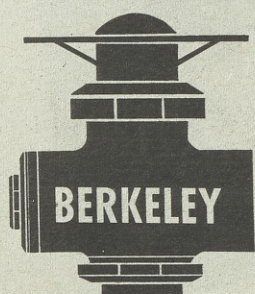
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50 words or less:



JIMMY SCOTT: Dream

The cool, lounge jazz on 68 year-old Scott's 2nd comeback album, makes me want to stroll with Snoopy & Linus down to the Christmas tree lot, as the snowflakes fall gently...Scott's voice straddles gender identification with a warmth that transcends labels. In a word, spell-binding.

PRINCE: Come Speaking of labels, here's the final album by "Prince" - ten single-word titled tunes that thrill and exasperate, as always...Skip the psychodrama of "Papa" the anemic "Solo" and the embarrassing "Orgasm," and you're left with a handful of durable workouts that show, by whatever name, he's still got it.

1-800-N-E-W F-U-N-K This, coinciding with the above "Come," is a collection of Mr. Symbol's proteges from his defunct Paisley Park Records. While some of the tunes are just average, the two Nona Gaye tracks ("Love Sign" features HIM) and Margie Cox' "Standing at the Altar" stand out.

LUSCIOUS JACKSON: Natural Ingredients Following up on 1992's debut EP "Search For Manny," the four women who are Luscious Jackson pour 70's funk, hip-hop and bluesrock into a blender to present a concoction that is full-bodied and tangy, but could be helped by a few songwriting workshops to help create some hooks.

EVERYTHING BUT THE GIRL: Amplified Heart Two years after "Acoustic," Ben & Tracy return with some spare 60's cocktail jazz tunes, peppered with lyrics that reflect an unsettling period for the duo "who am I for christsakes to judge a life this way, when my own's in disarray?". Moody and sunny at the same time...

MUSIC

It's Time To Get Under the Covers

by Bill Peterson

As the days darken earlier & earlier, break the woools out of mothballs and cozy up with some old favorites. Just out are a new Van Morrison tribute album, an all-covers Shawn Colvin disc, and the latest from Sandra Bernhard, with a couple remakes done in her inimitable style.

The title of **"No Prima Donna: The Songs of Van Morrison"** takes a sly jab at Morrison's reputed "strong personality" but is underscored by the fact that Morrison produced this tribute to himself, not allowing for any fresh new takes on his tunes by other artists. Opening with Morrison's Irish comrade, Sinéad O'Connor on "You Make Me Feel So Free," it immediately becomes clear that Morrison's sound remains unchanged - no synthesizers, drum programming or sampled hooks, leaving the selections to stand on the strength of the vocalists, and on the structure of the songs. The best cuts are "Queen of the Slipstream" with Neville-esque vocals by Brian Kennedy, the luscious "Crazy Love" rendition by Cassandra Wilson, and the closing, "Friday's Child" with Lisa Stansfield doing the gospel thing.

Shawn Colvin takes a break from songwriting with **"Cover Girl,"** which pays homage to a variety of both famous and not-so famous songwriters. Sparsely produced, with many songs just

featuring Colvin and her guitar, the tunes by the likes of The Police ("Everything (He) Does is Magic"), Tom Waits, Steve Earle, Talking Heads, and even Glen Campbell are stripped down to bare bones playing, making this perfect coffee house background music.

Fans of Sandra Bernhard are no doubt thrilled at the prospect of a new album, and listing the songs she covers seems promising: Paul Simon's "50



Ways to Leave Your Lover," Sylvester's "You Make Me Feel (Mighty Real)," and the Stones "Sympathy for the Devil", but **"excuses for bad behavior: part 1"** just doesn't live up to its potential. As always, Bernhard keeps you on edge, wondering if she's being

sincere or pulling one over on you, while laughing behind your back. She skewers Psychic Hotlines, personal ads, and, on "The Letter," portrays with cutting accuracy, the shock and disappointment many will feel upon hearing this nearly-serious attempt at a pop album.

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SURFER

continued from page 7

eye, which a straight dude won't do. But in all my years of surfing, I have known only 8 or 10 gay identified surfers."

Los Angeles had a small club for surfers up until a few years ago when half of the members moved out of town, many after the earthquake. Some networking happens over the computer bulletin boards, but that too is limited.

Asked about other radical experiences surfing ("awesome" is out as an expression, as is "tubular."), Freedman said brightly, "I had sex with a dolphin once!"

"Well, okay, not sex exactly. It was amazing! I was in the water in Ventura. It wasn't a

bottle-nosed dolphin. It was one of those big white ones with the bump on its forehead. I see this huge white thing glide under me and I just yanked my arms an legs up as fast as I could. I thought it was a shark. And then a tourist [i.e.: beginner surfer] screamed, "Aaah! It's a shark!"

"And then the dolphin just broke the surface and started laughing, and I got off my surfboard and splashed in the water to try to get it to come over. Finally it came really close to me and I grabbed it and felt it, and it was really very erotic. I groped it a little. It came by again and again, and it would go slower every time it came by. I was actually able to grab it, slide down and grab its tail, and it pulled me along for a minute

or two. It was really intense. They're very soft and smooth."

After years of surfing, Freedman is less involved now in surfer culture. "It's my time for myself now. But I still love watching the boys. They wear these wetsuits that just define their beautiful little bodies. I drive down to the parking lot at Manhattan Beach, and if it's sunset there's all these surfers just peeling off their wetsuits or standing around with the tops peeled down to their waists. It's definitely erotic."

Asked if he thought surfing would ever become more openly gay-positive, Freedman replied, "If there were more gay surfers, maybe, but there aren't. Now, it's very homophobic and closeted. That's the way it is."

FEM2FEM

continued from page 24

are and to be comfortable with it."

"We were the first band whose gay members came out from the onset." "K.D. Lang and Melissa just came out publicly," states Christina. A lot of things have changed."

"It's like human nature, and all we've been through. If you like this album, I think you'll like the new album a lot more. We had a lot of problems (due to gay/lesbian music content). Only a few stations picked up "Switch," and the ones that did, it was number one. "Obsession" was a hit all the way across. So we feel we're set up for a hit song. And our "family"-- the gay community--has been by us all the way. Including our mis-

take of doing Playboy... Well, I didn't, because of my family, but the band made a decision to do Playboy. We were led to believe that because Playboy had been handed over to a woman (Hefner's daughter) that her voice would be heard and that we'd be expressed differently."

The women behind the image of Fem 2 Fem have certainly come up against their share of learning experiences, both good and bad. It will be interesting to see if the group finds a way to evolve and grow beyond their "manufactured" origins. At any rate, the Fems fill a void, providing the lesbian (and gay) community with great dance music that speaks to our lives and loves.

DRUMMER

continued from page 11

called my name. The judge said my jaw dropped to the floor."

Several times during the interview he grumbled about the regimen he is on to prepare for the international competition. "I want to eat something that doesn't involve potatoes, raw carrots or ground turkey!"

The International Mr. Drummer contest will be held at 8

p.m. on Saturday, September 24 at the San Francisco Concourse. The contestants will be judged on their looks, their ability to speak to a crowd and on their performance in a staged fantasy. Also factored into the decision will be each contestant's ability to raise charity money through an auction of a gift basket (pun, of course, intended) at The Eagle leather bar on Sept. 21. For information, call (415) 252-1195.

SAFE SEX

continued from page 19

material. Also notable is the comparative costs of latex wear, with gloves being both the least protective and the least expensive, condoms ranking in the middle for cost and dams topping the cost spectrum.

The challenge of promoting safer sex is a complex and multi-faceted problem not the least of which is breaking down

cultural barriers that create an air of social stigmas that cast HIV positive people as an undesirable fringe and/or criminal element of society. Ironically, the testing statistics themselves may propagate this adverse attitude. It has been documented that people who perceive themselves as having been at risk or as being at risk are much more likely to get tested and participate in medical surveys, a fact that may bias population samples in surveys. In addition, the nature of the AIDS virus often deceives infected people into a false sense of security because they exhibit no symptoms. Moreover, people fre-

quently don't even know what early symptoms of HIV infection might be.

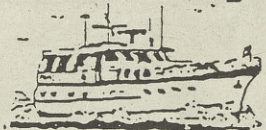
Many researchers believe there is a large number of infected people who have not been tested and do not know they are infected and therefore do not consider themselves as individuals to whom safer sex practices need apply, thus creating a system of blind and potentially disastrously mushrooming AIDS transmissions. Additionally, there are people who may not have been infected sexually but through intravenous drug use, piercings (including ears), tattoos, or other body art that contacts body fluids. These individuals may have a "clean" sexual history and thus also identify themselves as risk-free and exempt from a need for safer sex practices.

The possibility of HIV transmission through artificial insemination adds another twist to sex and safer practices.

Most importantly, everyone needs to keep in mind that if you gamble with unsafe sexual encounters, there are always only two possible outcomes -- HIV negative and HIV positive.

The latest *ISSUE* would like to know more about your safer sex practices and beliefs. We are conducting a Safe Sex survey during the month of September. (Many papers will include the survey, but if you didn't get one and would like to participate, contact us at (916) 448-8504 and we will mail you one.) Surveys may be returned by fax, mail, or by dropping it off at our office. All information is for our survey purposes only and will not disclose any confidentiality. The results will be published in the October issue.

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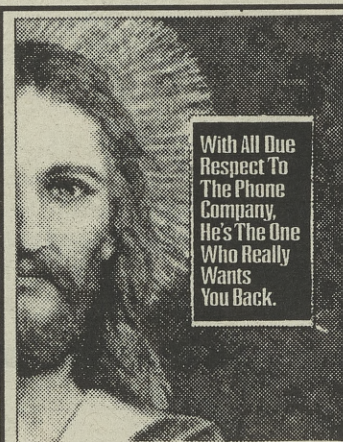
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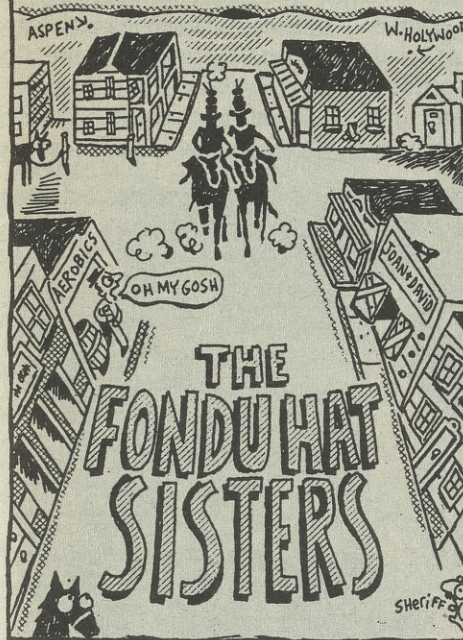
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THE MOSTLY UNFABULOUS SOCIAL LIFE OF ETHAN GREEN...

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IT WAS JUST ANOTHER LAZY DAY IN TEADANCE 'TIL WHO SHOULD COME A-RIDIN' INTO TOWN BUT...



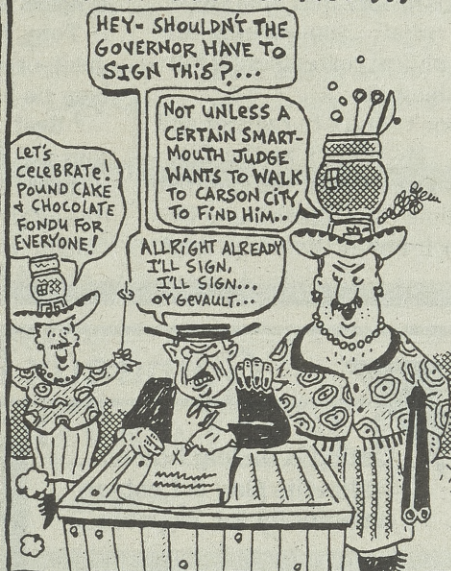
THEIR REPUTATION FOR RUTHLESSNESS KEPT THE LOCAL SHOPKEEPS HOPPIN'...



TEADANCE WAS A CATTLE TOWN, BUT THE FONDU HAT SISTERS WANTED CHICKEN OR FISH, & THEY WEREN'T BEIN' REAL PRETTY ABOUT IT, NEITHER...

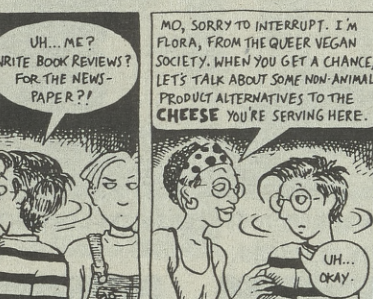
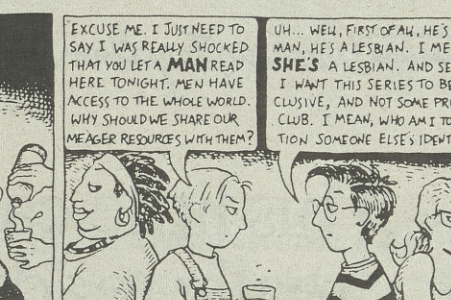
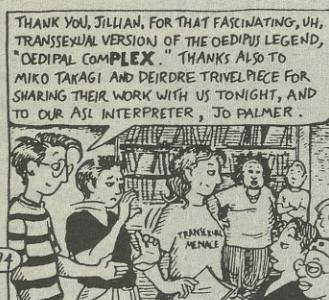


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Rumor Has It

by Stephanie Carlisle

Okay, okay...the Rainbow Fest is history and I'm all fagged out. (what?... you were expecting political correctness?!) Forget about it.

* Don't forget to register and vote. My friends at the Elections Department tell me that deadline for registering is October 1. For all those who think

it doesn't matter, try another four years of **PeeWee Wilson**. Besides, we have a gay man running for Secretary of State -- **Tony Miller**. Make a statement or else... I don't wanna hear no bitchin'.

* Beer makers and distributors are supporting our community: **Markstein Beverage** (the local Anheuser-Busch reps) bought a full page ad in the

1994 Film Festival program, and the **Miller Beer** people are matching dollar-for-dollar donations through their 'Rainbows for Relief' fundraiser for AIDS charities. Check the **Town House** for details.

* **Hamburger Mary's** opened Friday of Labor Day weekend. According to my sources, the place was so busy that the restaurant ran out of food and had cut the dinner menu off early. But...alternative dance music and great drinks eased the disappointment of late-comers.

* Attention all you Court enthusiasts: **Emperor XVI** and **XIX Paul** wants to let y'all know... if you want to bring an idea for an event or function to CGNIE that does not involve Court sponsorship, bring it to the general meeting on the first Tuesday of each month at Faces. If you try to introduce non-Court functions at Court Board meetings, Paul threatens to hold

a WIG BURNING (or is that a toupee ala flambe?)

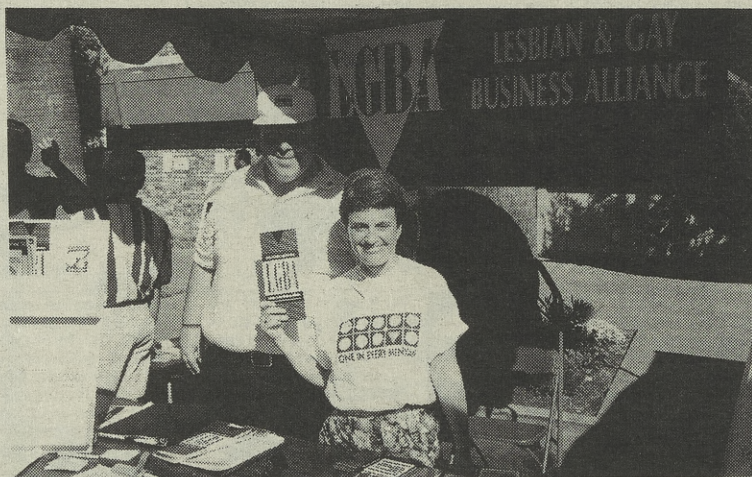
* Congrats to newly-elected **Grand Duke Maggie** and **Grand Duchess Chelsea** whose agenda this year is to get the Ducal House more recognition

in the community.

* Speaking of funny hair pieces, did anyone catch **Large Marge** imitating **Lonnie Gordon** Friday night at Faces tent? Two big blonde wigs... who could tell? Of course when they sang...



Jon Williams takes up a familiar pose at the Rainbow Festival. Terry Sidie owner of Faces is standing.



The LGBA gave away hundreds of business directories at the Rainbow Festival Labor Day Weekend.

Marge, don't quit your day job. Love ya, girlfriend.

* Rolling down the Russian...**Molly Brown's** (surprisingly closed down in August) has been bought and reopened by several well known business people... **Brew Moon** has been bought by two local lesbians. Check it out during **Women's Weekend II**, September 23-25.

* **Loaves and Fishes**, still operating a small hospice for endstage AIDS patients, is sponsoring a "Best of Broadway" musical revue, to help

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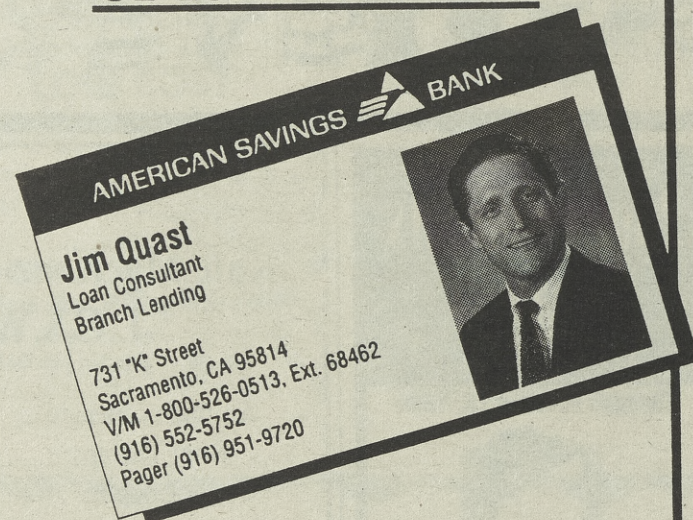
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defray health care costs. It's at the Hiram Johnson Theater (65th and 14th Ave.). For information call (916) 447-8024.

* **The Mirage** (15th and F Street) has started a dance and drink special House Party to be



Garnet and Leonard celebrate 30 years together this month.

offered every Saturday from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. They also are providing ample seating to enjoy Monday Night Football each week.

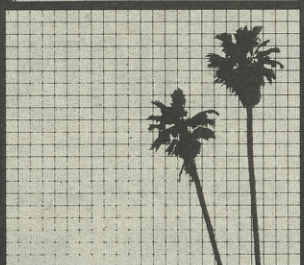
* **Rumor Has It...** Jammin Jo's will soon be serving from a full bar. Check it out at the after Melissa Etheridge concert party Sept. 23. *The latest IS-SUE* held a raffle for 5th-row seats for the concert and raised \$270 to benefit the **LIFE Lobby** and the **Lambda Community Center**. The lucky winner was **Emma Caves**. Congratulations, Emma!

* **No Reason for Raley's:** Several years ago, when the local governing officials were debat-

ing our gay-rights ordinance, a spokesman for **Raley's Supermarket** chain gave testimony against us by saying that he would be forced to hire meatcutters who carried HIV, who would likely bleed on the meat, giving AIDS to his customers. Now, another spokesperson has told the *Sacramento News and Review* that they could care less about offending gay customers: "We are not concerned about a few individuals. We care about families." I guess we're all just space aliens not related to the human race. So, if possible, avoid Raley's.

* **Hugs and Kisses to Dan Ross, Dennis Mangers, et al.** who brought the **Divine Miss M.** to town. **Bette Midler** is one of our greatest supporters and she gave a hard-driving performance at 'Echo Arena' at the end of August. I know **Emperors Jim and J.P.** had a ball, posing for pictures with Miss Midler at a private reception.

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* Thanks to lesbian readers for pointing out that woman's mag *On Our Backs* is now being run by men. Gay men, but still...

* **The Lesbian and Gay Business Alliance's** new directory premiered at the Rainbow Fes-

tival and thanks to talented graphic artist **Andy Markley** the cover looks fabulous! Everything he touches turns to gold, so get your directory before they're all gone.

* **Anniversaries** this month include a biggie for **Lady Gar-**

net and Leonard -- 30 years together and **Thomas Vasques and Lawrence Trim** -- eight years. Celebrating birthday's this month are **Kate Moore, Bill Peterson, P.J. Dunker, Sara Myers** and **La La Patron** of **LaLita's Cantina**.

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Holly's Place, Lake Tahoe. A Special Vacation Place For Women Cozy Cabins and Rooms in Decorated Rustic Elegance. Fireplaces, Lofts, Kitchens, Jacuzzi, TV/VCR's, Videos and More. Close to All Recreation. Cabin Special \$399. 4 or 5 Nights! or 20% off 2 night minimum Sept. 18th to Dec. 22nd, Sunday-Thursday, Holidays excluded. 800-745-7041 Reservations.

Women's Weekend II Vacancies- We have several vacancies of 2-3 bedroom vacation homes. Some have pools, hot tubs, private beaches, private decks, fireplaces, All amenities, Romantic getaway or gathering of friends. As low as \$25. per night per person-6 person minimum/3 night. Women owned and operated - Russian River Sonoma Coast Vacation Rentals (707) 869-4560.

COUNSELING

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Support/Therapy groups for lesbian survivors of sexual abuse; also Partner's group, every other Monday or Tuesday; 6:30-8:30 p.m. Facilitator: Melinda Facelli M.F.C.C. #MFC 30351. Limited to 8 members. (916) 783-0563.

Lesbian/Gay Couples Coming Out Support Group and Pot-Luck Dinner. Every other Thursday, 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$20 per session. River City MCC Counseling Service (916) 856-1455.

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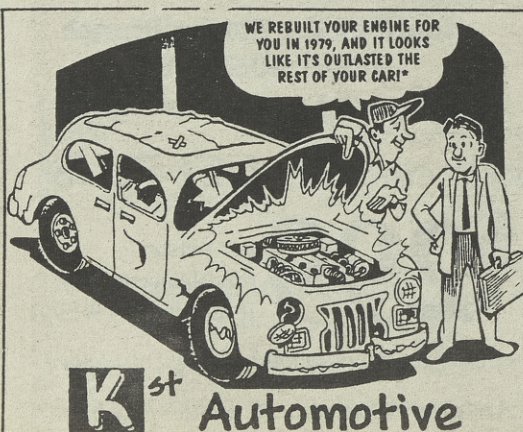
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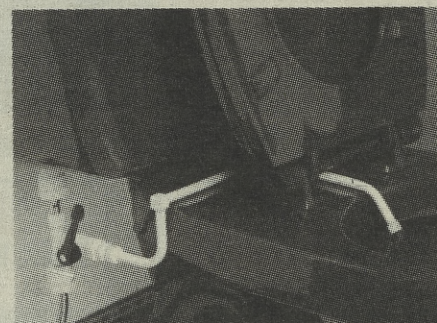
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SACRAMENTO

408 Area Code **L'EGGS BENEDICT:** 45 Married male athletic and a beard-looking for another W married male single male 25-35 to fulfill a fantasy-to wear panty hose while speaking french- #3675

Fresno **RON** 20 like to meet guys and have fun give me a call! #2275

Stockton **PRISONERS OF LOVE:** Dennis -looking for big tall very strong black or hisp men ex-cons ok- I will obey and respect you, love you ,will take care of you #2537

Palo Alto **LIFE-LESS IN THE BURBS-** 26 WM 6'2 175 tall runners build nice guy anyone like me down here on the peninsula? if fun funny interested down to earth educ, like outdoors modern rock - call- #1967

Sacramento **GOOD OLE COUNTRY BOY-** 26 5'9 blnd/ blu horseback riding, country music, line dancing, cuddling,, romantic-you name it i'd like it! #2122

Sacramento **BE MY GARANIMAL:** GWM 32 outgoing bike riding, animals, cozy nights- not looking for Mr. perfect just someone who likes to have a great time, go places, camp, being close to someone, I'm non-drinker. #2126

Sacramento **I AM MR. RED:** Ray lking in my area 4 20-40 mature and built- I have red hair, 6'2 195 lkg for phys love and old enough to enjoy it- #29599

Sacramento **GM** 34 lking to meet new friends fun times poss rel- #2352

Roseville **IF AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED:** Dick older guy 50's 5'9 165 good shape looking for younger, smaller guys for hassle free adventurous rel-looking forward to meeting new friends, I'm open honest

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uninhibited, willing to try anything at least

Sacramento **ATHLETIC SUPPORTER:** Jeff 24 lkg to meet same age I'm 6'1 blu/brn, gdlkg, athletic, looking to meet other jock types into fun - #2555

Sacramento **WABBIT HUNTIN' SEASON!** just a country boy from the wilderness of Sacto like to meet someone who likes hunting,fishing, hiking, camping and 4 wheeling-call me! #2674

Sacramento **COME TO ORDER:** Btm 32 blnd hot lkg for aggr tp under 25 for discr meetings call me #3023

Sacramento **FRANCISCO,** 23, lkg to meet in my area-19-37 call me - peace- #34925

Sacramento **WE'LL HAVE A GAY OL' TIME:** 22 in great shape like to meet 18-35 for anything and everything- we'll have a good time- #3183

Sacramento **ON THE CASUAL SIDE:** Mike 5'10 170 work out 28 clean shaven good looking for someone to have some fun with nothing serious- #3448

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Folsom **JOE** 32 5'11 165 gt shape, music, biking, like to meet some new guys 18-40 #42656

Sacramento **TELL SANTA WHAT YOU WANT FOR CHRISTMAS:** CD enjoys being a sissy boy, baby girl or little girl looking for a nice lap- #2460

Sacramento **HARD HAT HARRY:** like skinny guys WM 6' 160 brn/blu healthy + construction worker seeking 18-40 skinny and smooth- #3681

Sacramento **WHAT KIND OF MOVIES, HMMMM?** Chris- 145, 5'9 blnd/blu late 30's like to meet masc aggr guy to get together party watch movies, str, bi hisp ok- like outdoors, like to be active, a variety of things- like to get to know you- #3709

Davis **IF-** you're Asian, in the Davis area, like white guys, stay up all night sleep all day spend the weekend and never get dressed, then call me- #4161

Carmichael **GWM** 33, 5'9 200 , dk blnd/blu smooth crewcut recently moved here- lkg for 30's hair body mustache, int in music, outdoors- if I sound good, let's get together- #4451

Tulare **NO BARFLIES:** GWM 30 masc seeks same not into bars, discreet. #4473

Tulare **MANHUNT:** GWM masculine seeks the same- 30 - not into bar scene-discreet #4473

Guerneville **THE BIGGER THE BETTER:** Ray 5'8 blnd/blu 140- looking to meet men that like to have a

good time looking for dk hair tps- big naturally built. #4488

Sacramento **DREAMS DO COME TRUE:** Bill 41 bi male never really been with another man before-but i've fantasized about it quite a bit- I figure its about time to enjoy myself- if you're new at it too, lets explore the possibilities get together and talk.

Sacramento **LET IT ALL HANG OUT:** Joe, 42 GWM red/blu must goatee 170 nudist, sexually uninhib like to meet 25-45 with same interests. #43017

Sacramento **ANYTIME WILL DO:** Mark looking for someone to play with during the day or at night. page me- lets see whats going on. #43107

Sacramento **SLY** 28 5'8 155, toned, built athl attr bi-curious lkg for more erotic times - like to hear from you-interesting good adventures- #1194

Sacramento **COME OUT, WHEREVER YOU ARE:** John 41 bi male never been in a rel w/a man, I have fantasized about it, and its time to try it and see if its as good as I think it would be-if you're bi and new to the area, let's explore together- #2044

Sacramento **HEY SACRAMENTO!** Couple 26 & 28 looking for hot young in shape guys 18-25 if that's you -call! we're 5'6 & 5'8 blndish brn hair looking to have some summer fun! #20044

Solano County **LOS HOMBRES:** Jim long haired GWM btm 27 5'11 145 get into macho hisp men #3178

Sacramento **DAYDREAMIN'** Bill- 25 gdlking 5'10 brn/brn kinda looking for gdlkg also pref must older around 30's daytime fun- #3978

Sacramento **ROOM FOR ONE MORE:** GWM couple mid 30's looking to meet other couples for friendship and fun #1315

Sacramento **STEVE** 41 gdlkg- into almost anything-lkg for a man my age at least 38-45 into almost anything himself looking for rel- 5'10 185 dk/brn seeks other men to share many interests- #1502

Sacramento **TURN YOUR HEAD AND COUGH:** Mike looking to get together with guys into doctor play- 6'2 185 brn/blu must great build- #6618

Sacramento **SO THAT'S WHERE YOUR TATTOO IS:** 42 GWM btm, nudist, 5'9 170 red/blu must, goatee, totally uninhibited- lets have fun- #8724

Sacramento **WE'LL RISE TO THE OCCASION:** my partner and I looking to meet other singles and

couples my partner is a model here and does a commercial I'm 40 brn geen 5'9 he's 29 blnd blu 5'10 see what comes up- #20828

N. Lake Tahoe **WHATEVER LOLA WANTS, LOLA GETS:** attr seductive intell TV seeks built men for fun romantic times- #1833

408 Area Code **EDWIN** mature educ prof seeks companionship with other self aware sensitive men goal oriented any age. #42813

408 Area Code **SHRIMP COCKTAIL:** Sexy body builder 6'2 200 27 looking for men with big feet love to worship feet. #43009

Campbell **AS LONG AS WE'RE PROPERLY INTRODUCED:** Looking for hisp 18-30 variety of interests meet for social reasons perhaps more #42634

Fresno **SHY BEAR:** Handsome and hairy WM 40 6' 170 hairy, shy, romantic-seeking buddy 18-30 #34839

Gilroy **PARLEZ-VOUS FRANCAIS:** Eddie 160 blu/brn mostly into French-looking for other men 18-24 who like to speak it to me. #35000

Modesto **A MAN; A WOMAN AND A BEAR?** Like hairy submissive men 18-35 im 39 Richard brn/blue beard hairy looking 4 friendship novice looking preops. #42886

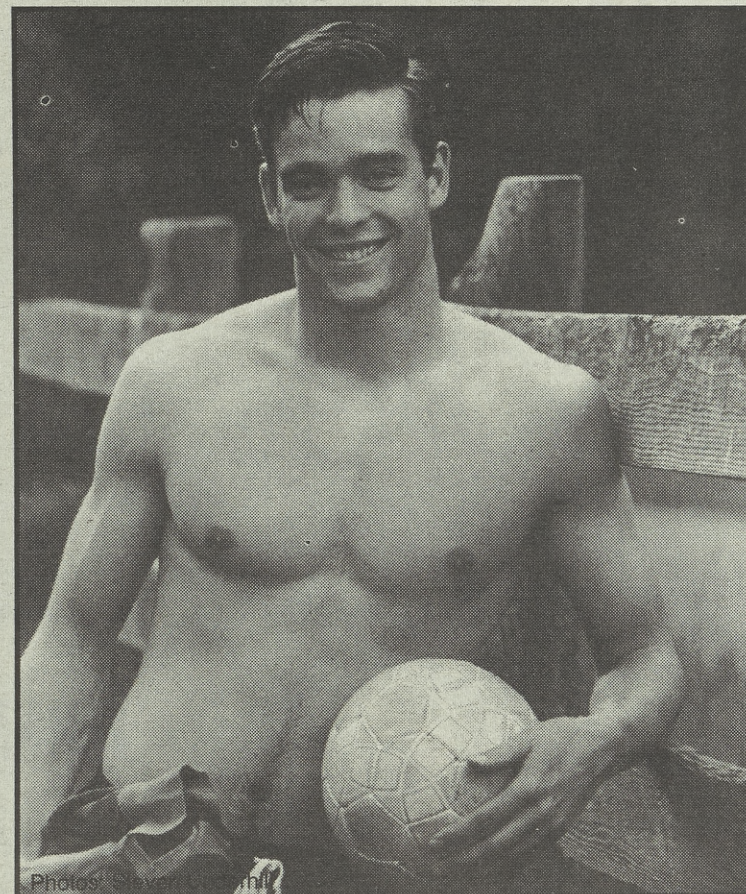
Sonoma **KEVIN** in the gold country I'm gdlkg 32 live on 2 acres w/a little cabin, lkg 4 a guy into building a life, rel poss reloc up here or living p/t in the city or valley-nto baseball fishing camping hiking. #42602

Vacaville **LOW RIDER:** Sensuous long haired GWM 27 5'11 145 hot, willing seeking macho latino types can travel to bay area easily #42920

Sacramento **GET REAL!** 37 y/o hisp gay male looking for sincere honest man- no head games-just be real! #12349

Sacramento **STRAWBERRY FIELDS FOREVER:** 42 y/o GWM, strawberry blnd/blue, goatee, mustache, 5'9, 170, into adventure and new things-open to most anything-love to party! #34679

Sacramento **CAPITOL IDEAS:** Francisco 23 6'5 looking for 21-36 in my area to have dinner watch movies go out-I'm new to area-show me what Sacramento has to offer- #34925



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M. Jane Pearce, 1409 28th Street, Suite 200, Sacramento. (916) 452-3883.

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The Mirage, 601 15th Street, Sacramento. (916) 444-3238.

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Wreck Room, 2513 Broadway, Sacramento. (916) 456-1181.

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Steamworks, 2110 5th Street, Berkeley. (510) 845-3227.

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Lioness Books, 2224 J Street, Sacramento. (916) 442-4657.

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Post Cards Etc., 1115 21st Street, Sacramento. (916) 446-8049.

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Lynn McNeal, D.C., 4611 H

Street, Sacramento. (916) 452-9461.

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Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer, 4641 Marconi Ave., Sacramento. Pr. Todd Van Laningham, (916) 483-5691.

Metropolitan Community Church, Cathedral of Promise, 3 blks. inside Mather Air Force Base. (off Hwy. 50) (916) 856-1444.

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Jan Mar Cleaning, (916) 782-7496.

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California Closets, 271 Opportunity Street, #C Sacramento. (916) 648-3300.

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Joan Frazzini, L.C.S.W., LG#9415, 1731 I Street, Sacramento. (916) 447-9114.

Bruce Gunn, M.F.C.C., #MM19480, Sacramento. (916) 443-7171.

Bob Hall M.F.C.C., 2740 Fulton Ave., Suite 100-D, Sacramento. (916) 481-9141.

Sandra Howarth, L.C.S.W., 418 Alhambra Blvd. Sacramento. (916) 443-6233.

Kate MacKenzie, L.C.S.W., 1731 I Street, Sacramento. (916) 447-0350.

Meredith Richards, M.A., M.F.C.C. Intern #IMF21497, 5619 Marconi Ave., Suite 1, Sacramento. (916) 973-1060.

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Paradise Cove, 14711 Armstrong Woods Road, Guerneville. (707) 869-2706.

Russian River Resort, 16390 Fourth Street, Guerneville. (707) 869-0691.

The Willows, 15905 River Road,

Guerneville. (800) 953-2828.

The Woods Resort, 16881 Armstrong Woods Road, Guerneville (800) 47-WOODS.

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